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ARAB TIMES

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Defendants were brought in closed vans.

Strict security measures were enforced.

Trial of 33 coup plotters begins

Accused planned to kill public officials

By Lima Al Khalefawi
Arab Times staff

THE trial of 33 people, including 18 Kuwaitis, accused of plotting to overthrow the government by force and kill public officials began yesterday.

The indictment was read in open court yesterday but the rest

of the trial will be closed to the public.

The courtroom was packed with relatives of defendants, and newsmen.

Under strict security measures defence lawyers were first allowed to enter the courtroom followed by newsmen and relatives.

Twenty of the accused with

heads shaved sat in two separate fenced-off enclosures. The other 13, who are absconding, are being tried in absentia.

Defendants appeared attired in grey prison uniforms. They chatted with their relatives for a few minutes from behind enclosures, before the court sessions began. Majority of

relatives were women.

The open hearing started after prosecution and defence lawyers, the jury and the judge gathered in the courtroom. Judge Mohamed Al Banai presided. The other judges are Khalid Al Waqian and Sa'ad Al Dafran. Abed Al Ajemi represented the state prosecution

and Nizar Hussein is the court secretary.

The case follows a string of sabotage trials in Kuwait starting with that of the pro-Iranian militants found guilty of bombing the US and French embassies in 1983.

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 7)

Missing boat located in Iraq

By Salem Al Wawan

A COAST Guard gunboat reported missing after chasing a vessel with infiltrators out of Kuwaiti territorial waters has been located in Iraq, according to reliable sources.

The sources said that only three military personnel are aboard the gunboat and all are reported to be in good health. The personnel contacted their families on telephone yesterday and said that they faced no problems.

The sources said: "The members on board and the gunboat are being hosted by the Iraqi Coast Guard and the boat and crew will return home today."

In the chase to apprehend the infiltrators, the Kuwait boat entered Iraqi territorial waters, the sources said.

Arafat calls off visit

ROME, May 13, (KUNA): Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat had put off a visit to Italy originally scheduled for late May to early October, said a spokesman for Italian Cultural Associations, launching a campaign for solidarity with the Palestinian uprising.

The spokesman said Arafat's decision was contained in a message he sent to the organizers of the campaign in which he expressed the gratitude of the Palestinians for showing solidarity with the Italians for the just Palestinian cause.

INSIDE	
International	2-4
Middle East	5
Kuwait-Gulf	6,7
Editorials	8
Business	9,10
Events	11
Features	12,13
Philippines	14,15
Classifieds	16
Urdu	17,18
Sports	19,20

Afghan rebel leaders say they're massing for attack on Kabul

ISLAMABAD, May 13, (AP): Muslim rebels said today that some 30,000 Afghan mujahedeen are preparing for an imminent attack on communist-held Kabul, the Afghan capital.

Rebel leaders and foreign observers had said earlier that an assault on Afghanistan's capital might occur in mid-May, following the spring thaw and the end last weekend of Ramadan.

"About 30,000 mujahedeen (holy warriors) forces will launch a common attack on Kabul city very soon," the rebels' Afghan News Agency quoted a guerrilla commander, Mohammad Nasir, as saying.

Neither ANA nor other mujahedeen sources would specify the date of the assault.

President Najibullah has insisted that his forces are strong

enough to withstand a rebel onslaught. Najibullah has already proven wrong early predictions that his government would fall quickly once Soviet troops, which had been bolstering his forces, withdrew in February.

Kabul is a city of about 2 million people some 108 miles (180 kilometres) west of the border with Pakistan, where a coalition

of Afghan rebels is based. It is protected by at least three security rings built by Soviet forces.

Moscow continues to arm the Kabul government, although the last of more than 100,000 Red Army troops withdrew from Afghanistan on Feb 15 under a United Nations accord.

More than 1.5 million Afghans, or about 10 per cent of the

country's pre-war population of 15 million, have died in 11 years of civil war.

Mujahedeen, backed mainly by Pakistan and the United States have tried for the past nine weeks to take the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad, but well-armed government troops have held off the rebels with superior artillery firepower and aircraft which the mujahedeen do not possess.

Iraq urged to chart border

Help stabilise oil price: Sheikh Saad

KUWAIT, May 13, (Agencies): Kuwait has urged Iraq to take steps to resolve their long-standing border disputes, HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah has been quoted as saying.

In an interview with the director-general and editor-in-chief of the Omani News Agency, Sheikh Saad also called for co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC countries for stability in oil prices.

Sheikh Saad praised Kuwaiti-Omani ties and welcomed the visit of Oman's Sultan Qaboos to Kuwait.

"We have told our brothers in Iraq of Kuwait's point of view and ideas to draw the borders between the two countries," he said.

"We have made clear the public desire in Kuwait to settle this matter so that the wheel of brotherly co-operation with Iraq may move forward into deeper and wider fields."

Sheikh Saad said he was confident that an agreement could be reached through continued contacts with Iraq.

Answering a question on how best to maintain current oil prices, Sheikh Saad said price stability is in the interest of oil producers, consumers as well as the world economy.

This stability cannot be achieved unless it is based on fair prices, which guarantee reasonable revenues needed for economic development and social welfare of oil producing countries, Sheikh Saad stressed.



A soldier points to a mass grave in Kaleyaan, Laguna province in the southern Philippines. (Reuters wirephoto)

"Therefore, there must be true co-operation between OPEC and non-OPEC exporters and they must hold on to approved measures," he said.

Sheikh Saad said security co-ordination between the GCC member countries has reached effective levels and transcended the security agreement in some areas. Co-operation in the security field will be enhanced in the future as is the case in other areas," he added.

Mass grave found in the Philippines

NPA holds 8 militiamen

The security agreement, a legal framework for existing co-operation, will be signed after studying certain clauses, he said.

Sheikh Saad described Kuwait-Omani ties as "brotherly, historic and based on identical interests, wishes, goals and joint destiny" and were fostered by the GCC.

Sheikh Saad said HH the Amir of Kuwait and Sultan Qaboos will discuss the situation in the Gulf region as well as Arab and international developments.

MANILA, May 13, (AP): A former communist rebel has led Philippine soldiers to mass graves where more than 100 people killed by guerrillas are believed to have been buried, a military spokesman said today.

Meanwhile, on strife-torn Mindanao island, New People's Army guerrillas holding eight government militiamen said today they would release their captives if the military stops its operations in the region.

Col Tranquilino Aspiras said the graves, in two provinces south of Manila, are believed to contain the bodies of people killed by the NPA in a purge of suspected military spies in their ranks following a series of arrests of rebel leaders in 1988.

"We have discovered communist killing fields," Aspiras said. "These atrocities have been left unreported because of the secrecy of the killings. The murderers must be unmasked."

Rifaat Assad suspected in killing

PARIS, May 13, (UPI): French investigators said today they suspected Rifaat Assad, the banished brother of Syrian President Hafez Assad, in the manslaughter of Frenchman during a boating accident on the Cote d'Azur last year.

But judge Marc Noguera, a French investigating magistrate heading a judicial inquiry into the incident that happened at the southern resort of Antibes last year, believes he is receiving insufficient co-operation from Spanish police over the presumed involvement of wealthy Rifaat, 50, who subsequently fled to the Spanish resort of Marbella, police sources said.

Rifaat is believed to have been cruising off Antibes together with four of his children and their nanny last August when his speedboat, "The Skipper", rammed another boat with six people on board. A 22-year-old Frenchman from Alsace was killed in the accident and another person was injured.

The soldiers were preparing to move on to two other reported mass grave sites in nearby Quezon province, witnesses said.

In Mindanao, police said the militiamen were captured on Wednesday by rebels posing as army troops in Mandug district on the outskirts of Davao city, about 975 kilometres (610 miles) southeast of Manila.

Let Marcos return: appeal

MANILA, May 13, (AP): Lawyers for Ferdinand Marcos filed a petition with the Supreme Court today to allow the ousted president and his family to return to the Philippines to defend themselves against civil suits.

Lawyer Juan David said in a statement that the petition also was filed to stop a special anti-graft court from proceeding with civil suits against Marcos, his wife Imelda and close associates.

The petition said the government, which has banned the Marcoses' return for fear it would serve as a rallying point for his followers, had deprived them of their freedom, and urged the Supreme Court to lift the ban.

A decorated military officer was gunned down without any apparent reason by one of his men who was reported to be acting "strangely" days prior to the killing, the military reported today.

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Ligachev 'figures' in probe

LENINGRAD, May 13, (Reuters): A Soviet prosecutor said Politburo member Yegor Ligachev is among top officials named in an organised crime investigation and that the state is trying to squash the probe.

Nikolai Ivanov, a candidate for the Soviet parliament, made the accusations during a debate on Leningrad television last evening. He also implicated former Politburo members Grigori Romanov and Mikhail Solomentsev and former Supreme Court chief judge Vladimir Terebilov.

Pravda, the Communist Party daily, immediately denounced the statement, and today said a special state commission was conducting its own probe into the methods used by Ivanov and his boss, prosecutor Telman Gdylan.

The developments revealed a fierce struggle between the Kremlin and the special prosecutors whose work recently led to the bribery conviction of Yuri Churbanov, son-in-law of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

Ivanov said some voters were asking why the government was not fighting the mafia — a word used in the Soviet Union to refer to corrupt officials as well as gangsters.

Soviet authorities are to launch criminal proceedings over poor building standards which contributed to the high death toll in last December's earthquake in Armenia, Tass news agency reported today.

NEWS IN BRIEF

17 detained for drugs

ROME, May 13, (Reuters): Police said yesterday they had arrested 17 people, some of them wealthy members of the Roman upper class, on charges of operating an international drug trafficking ring.

They told a news conference they had seized 12 kg (26 pounds) of cocaine and six kg (13 pounds) of heroin worth about 10 billion lire (\$7.1 million) during the operation.

Police said the organisation used very complicated routes to smuggle the drugs into Italy from Asia and South America and sometimes used unsuspecting elderly people as couriers.

Computers infiltrated

BRUSSELS, May 13, (AP): The European Economic Community's computers were infiltrated by hackers twice last month, a commission spokesman revealed yesterday.

Claus Ehlermann said the hackers were "individuals just having fun" from Britain, the south of France, Switzerland and South Africa.

They infiltrated computers of the EEC Commission's external relations, energy, personnel and spokesman's departments but were quickly discovered.

Global warming talks

WASHINGTON, May 13, (Reuters): President George Bush has agreed to host international talks this autumn on how to best negotiate a treaty to slow the gradual warming of the earth, the so-called greenhouse effect, US officials said yesterday.

US Environmental Protection Agency administrator William Reilly told a news conference that the meeting would be a "workshop", not a full-fledged international convention that some countries and many environmentalists, including Reilly himself, had called for to work out a treaty.

Protesters beaten back

KWANGJU, South Korea, May 13, (AP): Riot police wielding truncheons and shields beat back thousands of protesters today who tried to reach government headquarters to denounce authorities for the death of a radical student.

About 4,000 riot troops used the clubs and riot shields against protesters who lashed out with bamboo sticks in clashes at the provincial government headquarters.

"Down with murder and torture," protesters chanted. Some troops were beaten to the ground by protesters. The crowd burned helmets and shields seized from police.

Crowd rampages through city

MOSCOW, May 13, (AP): About 250 protesters with economic and ethnic demands rampaged through the streets of a city near the Iranian border, setting fire to shops and pelting police with stones, a newspaper reported.

The May 9 riot in Nefit-Dag, a western city in the

Republic of Turkmenia, followed a rampage in the republic's capital Ashkhabad on May 1 in which more than 100 young people were arrested.

The newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda said in a report yesterday about 50 people had been arrested in Nefit-Dag, and that two policemen had been injured by the crowd.

Shariff Hamad detained

DAR ES SALAAM, May 13, (UPI): Zanzibar's former Prime Minister, Sef Shariff Hamad, was in police custody along with his brother and two close supporters today following their arrest for holding illegal political meetings in the autonomous Tanzanian islands off the coast of East Africa.

The four were arrested on Wednesday and charged with addressing meetings in mosques without a permit on Zanzibar's sister island of Pemba. If found guilty they could face sentences of up to 12 months in jail.

List of official candidates

WARSAW, May 13, (AP): A list of government coalition members who will run unopposed for 35 seats in a chamber of the national assembly was announced yesterday by the state-run agency PAP.

Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski, Interior Minister Gen Czeslaw Kiszczak, Defence Minister Gen Florian Swicki, Alfred Miodowicz, head of the official OPZZ trade union alliance, all of whom are Politburo members, were among the candidates on the list for elections to the Sejm.

Five other members of the Communist-led politburo were named to the list.

Shock resignations

JOHANNESBURG, May 13, (Reuters): South Africa's ruling National Party (NP), hit by the shock resignation of five cabinet ministers, has called a crisis congress to discuss election tactics, party officials said today.

The Congress, to be held in Pretoria on June 29, would give party leader F.W. de Klerk a chance to marshal his forces and calm party turmoil ahead of general elections scheduled for Sept 6, they added.

On the eve of the congress De Klerk, elected leader in February, is expected to give a policy speech which party sources said would set the tone of the NP election campaign.

Passport withdrawn

CAPE TOWN, May 13, (AP): The leader of a Muslim anti-apartheid organisation said yesterday security police confiscated his passport, preventing him from making scheduled trips to Sweden and the United States.

Farid Essack, national co-ordinator of Call of Islam, said security police visited him on May 1, saying unspecified charges were being investigated against him. They presented him with a letter from the Department of Home Affairs, dated March 28, demanding that he surrender his passport.

KGB storms apartment, frees hostages

MOSCOW, May 13, (AP): A team of KGB agents on Friday stormed an apartment in a Volga river city and freed several hostages, one of whom was tortured, held for more than a day by four escaped criminals, Tass reported.

It was the third hostage-taking reported in the Soviet Union in a month.

The official news agency said the four criminals on Thursday night began to torture a prison employee they had taken hostage, and threatened to throw a two-year-old girl out a window.

The "incident" began "Wednesday," when "four

criminals being held for investigation in Saratov took two women workers hostage during a walk in a courtyard. They then unlocked several cells and took hostage two minors. The criminals demanded arms, bullet-proof vests, money and free escape, Tass reported.

According to the account, the criminals and hostages were allowed to leave, and they commandeered a car. The criminals fired on an escorting vehicle and took hostage a saleswoman who had been a witness during the trial of one criminal. They also seized a family including the two-year-old.

Soviets charged with spying

TRIESTE, May 13, (AP): Italian judges yesterday charged two Soviets with spying, in a case that officials say threatened NATO military secrets and Italy's national security.

Police said the judges had issued international arrest warrants for the Soviets but it was likely they had returned to

the Soviet Union.

The charges were levelled against Alexandrovich Vitaly Popov, 56, a counsellor at the Soviet embassy in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and Nicolai Kirilovich Smetankin, 44, said a Trieste police investigator, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Also charged was an Italian electronics technician, Giorgio Stanchich, who was arrested in February when police said they broke up a KGB ring operating in the northeastern city of Trieste.

Stanchich and the Soviets were suspected of working with a KGB ring seeking information

on a highly advanced electronic warfare system known as Catrin. The project, still under development but considered one of the most sophisticated systems of its kind destined for use by NATO, involves computer systems capable of directing an entire battle, according to Italian newspaper reports.



The wreckage of the Southern Pacific freight train

Train jumps its tracks, flattens 11 houses

SAN BERNARDINO, California, May 13, (UPI): Maryann Shaw had good reason to believe her son was killed by the derailed freight cars that flattened their home, burying it under tons of debris.

"I kept hoping... I knew he was gonna be OK and then, then I didn't," she said minutes after rescue workers heard Chris Shaw call out to them from beneath the wreckage — 13-1/2 hours after a runaway train demolished his home and flattened or damaged 10 others and killed at least three people.

"It was up to God," his mother said. "And all I have to say is I'm glad my son is alright."

"I told him his momma was there for him and he looked at me and shook his head OK," she said tearfully.

Shaw was one of two men reported missing and feared dead hours after a 69-car freight train loaded with potash, a sand-like mineral used to make soap and fertilizer, jumped the tracks at 90 mph (145 kph) and plunged down an embankment into a row of houses yesterday.

The other man, brakeman Allan Riess, was feared dead. Riess, 42, of Bakersfield, was believed to have been crushed in one of the train's six locomotives.

The bodies of two boys, identified as Tyson White and his half brother, Jason Thompson, were moved from the rubble of one house. A preliminary coroner's investigation indicated the boys may have been suffocated by potash that buried their home.

Also killed was conductor Everett Crown, of Bakersfield, one of five crew members of the Long Beach-bound train. Ten other people were injured in the mishap.

More than a dozen rescue workers employing two large cranes, shovels and their bare hands freed Shaw last night. He had been pinned under a freight car axle.

Taken to San Bernardino county medical center, Shaw was in serious condition with a broken right leg and possible internal injuries, nursing supervisor Joy Flint said.

US, Soviets to combat terrorism

WASHINGTON, May 13, (Reuters): US and Soviet experts will meet in Moscow next month to begin co-operating on combating terrorism, a senior US official said yesterday.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said a work programme for joint action on terrorism, global warming and other problems emerged from Secretary of State James Baker's two days in Moscow this week.

Baker arrived in the United States last night from Brussels, where he briefed NATO allies on his talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

The senior official, who briefed reporters aboard Baker's plane, said the United States and Soviet Union hoped to reach agreement this week on expanding direct airplane flights to and from each other's countries.

One of the issues to be taken up at next month's talks on terrorism concern the exchange of data on terrorist threats, organisations and people.

Huge cargo jets bring US troops

160 given refuge at bases

PANAMA CITY, May 13, (AP): Huge cargo jets continued bringing in fresh US troops through the early morning today and international condemnation of Panama's election procedure continued to pour in.

The government said it was suspending classes for 660,000 students because of actions by the "deranged administration" of US President George Bush.

US military and diplomatic dependents and Panamanian foes of the regime under Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega took refuge at US military bases.

Bush ordered in about 1,500 troops on Thursday after supporters of Noriega, Panama's de facto leader, beat opposition candidates and attacked protesters accusing Noriega of stealing Sunday's presidential election.



Opposition vice presidential candidate Ricardo Arias Calderon kneels during an opposition solidarity mass for presidential candidate Guillermo Endara in Panama City. (Reuters wirephoto)

The Roman Catholic church harshly denounced the government yesterday for the violence.

"What moral justification can there be for terrorising the population with gangs feeding on hate and a false nationalism?" the church asked in an unusually strong statement.

The new US troops augment approximately 10,400 troops already here. They will help defend the canal, provide security and assist in moving US citizens if need be, said Col. Ronald Sconyers, a spokesman for the US southern command.

Panama said yesterday it was suspending the start of school at all levels because of violence and civil disobedience inspired by the United States and the political opposition.

Education Minister Rolando Murra decided to postpone classes for approximately 600,000 public school and 60,000 university students for "reasons of physical safety," a government statement said.

"The deranged government of President Bush is now attempting with acts of violence and civil disobedience... to destroy social order, peace, tranquility and life," the statement said.

The government-controlled afternoon newspaper Ultimas Noticias named Bush "bum of the day," in a regular front-page feature that usually targets local opposition politicians.

The US cargo jets landed at a base five miles (eight kilometres) west of Panama City at 30-minute intervals.

A US military source said that since Monday more than 160 Panamanians have been given refuge at US military installations.

"They are here because they have shown that they are in physical danger for political reasons," said the source, who refused to identify any of the Panamanians for fear of reprisals.

Meanwhile, the opposition coalition, which claims a 3-1 victory in Sunday's elections, thanked all governments, especially those in Latin America, that have protested fraud and violence.

It again offered to take part in the patriotic agreement that would get the country out from under Noriega's "corrupt and dictatorial" rule.

The pro-government presi-

(Continued on Page 15 Col. 5)

EEC sets up team

Security co-operation

MADRID, May 13, (Reuters): European Economic Community interior ministers agreed yesterday to set up a small team of civil servants to speed co-operation on security matters ranging from drug trafficking to terrorism.

Spain, current president of the EEC's council of ministers, had proposed the creation of a permanent secretariat as a possible precursor to a community-wide intelligence service.

But the plan had been viewed with some scepticism by France and Britain and yesterday's decision appeared to be a compromise.

"It was decided there was no

Honour elections, urges Alfonsin

BUENOS AIRES, May 13, (AP): President Raul Alfonsin, whose party is widely expected to lose in tomorrow's presidential election, has called on Argentines to honour the election's outcome.

In an election dominated by the nation's staggering economic problems, Argentines will vote for president, for half the Chamber of Deputies, one national senator, 15 provincial or territorial legislatures, and thousands of local officials.

A key member of the opposition Peronist Party predicted a strong victory for candidate Carlos

Menem, a prediction that has been echoed for months by nearly every public opinion poll.

In a nationwide broadcast Friday, Alfonsin said "whatever the result of the balloting, I ask people (to act) so that prudence and responsibility keep accompanying us."

The latest surveys give Menem a lead of seven to 10 points over Eduardo Angeloz of the governing Radical Civic Union.

Voting is actually for 600 presidential elections. The winner needs at least 301.

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INTERNATIONAL



Homeless child

A homeless child sleeps in a public square in downtown Sao Paulo after thousands of abandoned Brazilian children. Officials estimate six snoring shoemakers glue. The highly toxic glue is snorted by million homeless children roam Brazil's streets. (Reuter wirephoto)

PEOPLE AND PLACES

BANGKOK: A US-Vietnamese scientific team has found two human teeth believed to be 40,000 years old, a discovery important to the study of human evolution in northern Vietnam, an official report said Thursday.

The Vietnam News Agency reported the discovery in a recent excavation at the Lang Trang cave in the Ba Thuc district of Thanh Hoa province, 150 kilometres (94 miles) south of Hanoi. The report said: "The teeth, one an incisor and the other a first molar, unearthed from a layer of carbonate-rich clay sediment, are believed to date to 40,000 years back, probably belonging to the Homo sapiens. This important discovery helps clarify the evolution from the Homo erectus, whose vestiges have been found in the northern province of Lang Son, to the present-day man in Vietnam and in the region."

Also found in the sediment was a large number of animal fossils of 36 species and 23 families. "Initial identification shows they belonged to the southern fauna which prevailed in south China and Indochina," the report said. (AP)

ANAHEIM, California — A woman's body was found after a newspaper received a letter Thursday in which her husband allegedly confessed to killing her because she didn't understand his premonitions.

The letter also said he left a list of 54 people who "will be punished."

"Last Friday night I shot and killed my wife," began the five-page letter, allegedly from David Schoenacker, 48, that was received by Orange County Register columnist Bob Emmers.

"There was no hatred — I loved her — but the action was necessary because I have a purpose and one that cannot have an interruption or interference," the letter said. (AP)

MEXICO CITY — A woman described as high priestess of a murderous drug cult swore Friday that a former Mexican head of Interpol who shot himself last year belonged to the sect, which has been blamed for 15 criminal slayings.

"The woman, 24-year-old Sara Aldegre, was a priestess of a murderous drug cult and killed 15 people," she testified at her arraignment hearing that Florentino Ventura was a member of the sect. Ventura, the Interpol chief, killed his wife, then shot himself to death last year. (AP)

JERSEYVILLE, Illinois — A woman implicated by her husband in the slayings of two daughters was charged Friday with concealing a homicide and obstruction of justice in the death of her 13-year-old daughter, whom she reported abducted in 1986.

The charges against Paula Sims, 29, were filed 13 days after her second daughter, Heather Lee, was reported abducted under similar circumstances.

Jersey county state's attorney Richard Ringhausen signed a criminal complaint alleging one count of concealing a homicide and three counts of obstructing justice in the death three years ago of Loralei Sims, said Linda Long, chief deputy court clerk.

Police say Sims told them he believes Mrs. Sims may have killed their daughters accidentally. (AP)

MILAN — A Tunisian woman abandoned by her husband grabbed her three children and jumped from her apartment Friday, killing her one-year-old son and injuring herself and her two daughters, authorities said.

A social worker called on Dalila Ayari, but the woman locked herself and the children on the third floor balcony.

Fire-fighters spread nets below the balcony in case the woman jumped, but Ayari, 32, ran to the other side of the apartment, opened the window, grabbed the children and jumped with them into the courtyard, police said. (AP)

WATERLOO, Indiana — A man killed his wife and two sons and let the bodies lie in their home a few days before turning a handgun on his young daughter and himself, authorities said Friday.

Relatives and police forced their way into the locked house Thursday after school authorities reported the children's absence.

A handgun was found in a bedroom near the body of David Fager, 34, police said. The bodies of

Scrubbing floors Child slavery

DETROIT, May 13, (AP) School officials have stopped assigning developmentally disabled students to scrub floors at the homes of teachers and principals after two mothers filed a lawsuit calling the practice "child slavery."

Wyandotte superintendent Michael Williamson on Thursday criticised using school officials' homes, but defended the housecleaning chores and said they were part of a legitimate job-training programme.

"I think there was an error in judgement made in using teachers' ... and principals' homes, because it leaves us open to exploitation by the public and press," Williamson said. Sandra Adkins and Laura Murphy filed a lawsuit Wednesday in Wayne county circuit court, claiming they never gave permission for their disabled children to be used in "child slavery."



Best toreador

Spanish toreador Espartaco turns his back to his second bull to salute the public at the third corrida in Nimes, France. Espartaco, considered the best toreador, faces a bull from the Miura farms which have the reputation of raising the fiercest animals for the corrida. (Reuter wirephoto)

his wife, Roxane, 31; and their children, Bryce Allan, 16, Michael Edward, 11, and Melissa Lynn, 9, were found in beds. (AP)

MARINELAND, Florida — A dolphin with a strong maternal instinct had to be isolated after she kidnapped a newborn dolphin and refused to allow the natural mother near the baby, Marineland officials said Thursday.

"This is the second time she's done that. She wants a baby so bad," park spokesman Bill Puckett said.

Liz has since been returned to the main dolphin tank following the abduction last month. Officials say the baby dolphin is now old enough to fend for itself.

The baby was abducted by Liz April 7 after a dolphin named Betty gave birth in a huge tank that holds Marineland's 20 Atlantic bottlenose dolphins.

Liz, who is believed to be about 22 years old, has never had any babies, Puckett said. She apparently chooses Betty's babies to kidnap because Betty is much weaker than the other adult females in the tank.

GENEVA — There was a slight reduction in the number of cholera cases world-wide last year, with data being received on 44,120, some 4,500 less than in 1987, according to the World Health Organisation.

There was also a decrease in the number of

countries reporting the disease, 30, compared with 34 in 1987.

The WHO stressed that the figures were incomplete because of the failure of some countries to present data, and inaccuracies in reported statistics.

The two continents where cholera was endemic were Africa, with just over 23,000 reported cases in 1988, and Asia, with close to 21,000. (KUNA)

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas — The Osmond clan — Dorey and Marie, along with most of their brothers and their parents — helped dedicate a new wing at the Arkansas children's hospital named in the family's honour.

The show business family has honoured Monday for their work in raising money for the hospital through the Children's Miracle Network Telethon. The family started the Telethon seven years ago through the Osmond Foundation.

Marie Osmond said her two oldest brothers are hard of hearing and the Osmond Foundation was established to help the hearing impaired. (AP)

SEOUL — A woman sued the man she planned to marry because his former live-in girlfriend showed up uninvited for the wedding — which was then cancelled, according to news reports.

The Korea Herald said Wednesday 26-year-old woman, identified only as Shila, was seeking \$21,000 in damages for mental stress and repayment of wedding costs from Pak Chang-Su, 32, her intended groom.

The suit, filed in district court in the southeastern port of Pusan, said the wedding was cancelled after a woman who had lived with Pak for seven years showed up unexpectedly at the wedding hall. (AP)

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida — The woman who supplied the voice of the princess in the 1959 animated classic Sleeping Beauty is suing Walt Disney Co. for something no one envisioned when the movie was made: videotape royalties.

New York attorney Clem Evers called the lawsuit filed Thursday in Palm Beach circuit court, "a straightforward contractual dispute" between Disney and his client, opera singer Mary Costa, who sang and spoke the words of the princess.

Costa's 1952 contract with Disney, the complaint alleged, did not "make phonograph recordings and/or transactions for sale to the public." The suit contends videotapes fit that description, and the Palm Beach soprano is seeking royalties from videocassette sales. (AP)

NEW YORK — A young actress sued comedian Eddie Murphy for \$75 million Wednesday, alleging that he had fired from a film because she spurned his advances.

Michael Michele Williams, a 22-year-old New York actress who performs under the name Michael Michele, also sued Paramount Pictures over her dismissal from the upcoming Murphy picture "Harlem Nights."

Williams claimed that she was removed from the proposed television version of Murphy's hit film "Coming to America," so she could appear opposite him in "Harlem Nights," a film that he is also producing and directing.

But between March 29 and April 7, the lawsuit claimed Murphy allegedly "made consistent, personal overtures" to Williams which she "did not desire."

The court papers continued that Murphy allegedly tried "to fondle and otherwise caress" Williams and allegedly had her fired "when it became clear" that she "could not accede to his sexual demands." (AP)

NEW YORK — A US federal appeals court has rejected Ginger Rogers' assertion that the Italian film "Ginger and Fred" infringed on her right to privacy.

A three-judge panel of the 2nd US circuit court of appeals ruled Monday that director Federico Fellini had the right to exercise "artistic expression" in making the film. Fellini was not named individually in Rogers' lawsuit.

Rogers, famous for the musicals in which she danced with Fred Astaire in the 1930s, sued the producer, Alberto Grimaldi, and the distributor, MGM-United Artists, for \$8 million in March 1986. Her complaint alleged the 1986 movie depicted her in a false light and infringed on her "public personality." (AP)

Cultural divide Panic attacks vary

SAN FRANCISCO, May 13, (AP) North Americans are less likely than Europeans to fear dying when a panic attack strikes but more likely to think they may be going crazy, a new study suggests.

North Americans also appear more likely to avoid situations in which previous attacks occurred, a condition that can make a person housebound, said researcher Heinz Katschnig of the University of Vienna in Austria.

The differences may reflect cultural influences on how people perceive symptoms, or different kinds of panic disorder, Katschnig said.

Panic attacks afflict millions of people with sudden bursts of overwhelming terror for no apparent reason.

Katschnig and colleague Michaela Ameringer studied 1,168 panic attack patients from 14 countries. They presented the work Thursday at the annual meeting of the American Psychiatric Association.

The different responses also may result from cultural differences in how people describe panic attacks, Katschnig said, or they may reflect differences in how patients in the study were signed up in different countries. The patients had been recruited for a drug trial.

The study included 220 panic attack sufferers in the United States and Canada; 367 in Southern Europe (Belgium, France, Italy and Spain); 324 in Northern Europe (Austria, Denmark, West Germany, Sweden and the United Kingdom) and 257 in Latin American (Brazil, Colombia and Mexico).

Dizziness, feeling faint and palpitations were the most common symptoms reported by about 90 per cent of patients in each of the four geographic areas.

Choking or smothering was reported most often in the Latin American group, followed by Southern Europe, Northern Europe and North America.

Fear of dying followed the same ranking, suggesting it is a reaction to the sense of choking or smothering, Katschnig said.

London to have two different codes

Dial a new number

LONDON, May 13, (AP) London is about to dial into a new and divisive experience.

The capital is running out of telephone numbers, so from May Day 1990 it will be split in two, with separate area codes for the central and outlying areas.

In a country which still harbours a passion for carving the citizenry into classes, the split offers fresh potential for social one-upmanship.

Out will go the simple old 01 area code for London, to be replaced by 071 for subscribers within roughly four miles (6.5 kms) of Charing Cross, London's official centre point, and 081 for the rest.

It will also spell the end of London's pre-eminence in Britain's telephonic pecking order. Stripped of its unique two-digit prefix, the capital will have to get in line behind Birmingham (021), Edinburgh (031), Glasgow (041), Liverpool (051) and Manchester (061).

Some Londoners may find it irksome to have to dial 10 digits to cross the divide, and snobs will probably have a field day.

"071 will be a superior number to have," declares Elsie Burch Donald, author of Debut's Etiquette and Modern Manners. "Clearly there is an advantage socially, culturally, economically to be living in Central London."

Like New York, which had to be divided into 212 and 718 dialing codes, London is running out of telephone numbers, especially since the rise of the fax, which sends documents over telephone lines.

The new codes will double London's telephone capacity to 10 million. Without the change, it would have run out of numbers next year, swamped by a 25-per cent upsurge in demand in the last four years, much of it in the centre.

British Telecom, the national telecommunications giant, has given the public a full year to adapt, and is spending tens of millions of pounds (dollars) on the switchover, including £1 million (\$1.65 million) just to publicize it.

But it isn't offering financial compensation for letterheads, signs and addresses on delivery trucks that will have to be changed.



An archaeologist works at the Rose Theatre site.

Shakespeare once performed

Theatre ruins saved

LONDON, May 13, (Reuter) Academy award winner Dustin Hoffman and leading British actors yesterday appeared to have succeeded in saving the ruins of an Elizabethan theatre where William Shakespeare is believed to have performed.

Property developers Imry Merchant said the remains of the Rose Theatre at a site on the south bank of the Thames River would be preserved under a new office block they are building.

Archaeologists had been trying since December to excavate as much as possible before bulldozers move in on Monday to make way for the new construction.

Among options being considered for the site is an underground Shakespeare museum.

Hoffman, who won this year's Oscar for best actor, toured the site before Imry's decision was announced, saying: "You're killing yourself, destroying your own heritage."

The American star is in London to play Shylock in "The Merchant of Venice", his first Shakespearean role.

The Rose, built in 1567, is the first theatre of its kind to be excavated by archaeologists. Plays were last performed there in 1603 and the polygonal building was demolished soon afterwards.

Sign writers, copywriters, printers, decorators, telephone engineers look to be in for a busy year. Telephone-triggered burglar alarms will have to be adjusted too.

Some subscribers have suggested running the split along the Thames River, which divides the city into north and south.

But British Telecom opted for rings, partly because "people's geography gets pretty hazy outside Central London," said spokesman Andrew Emerson.

Antacid tablets help fight pollution

WASHINGTON, May 13, (AP) Artist Buster Simpson has a cure for polluted waters — oversized antacid tablets to fight effects of acid rain.

Simpson calls the large limestone tablets "River Roloids" or "Tums for Mother Nature," a takeover on two popular brands of antacids for people.

He has dumped a bunch of them in the water fountain at the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington in a slightly wacky effort to prove a point.

The water that circulates through the fountain's pumping system comes from the Potomac River. His limestone antacid pills slowly neutralises the acidic content of the water, sweetening it enough to nourish delicate elm and sugar maple saplings he has placed in the fountain.

Both types of trees are threatened by acid rain, he notes. "These large pills have become a stopgap solution," he says. "The bigger the problem, the bigger the pill."

The pills are nearly two feet (60 centimetres) in diameter and weigh more than 24 pounds (19 kilograms). Before bigger pills are needed, he suggests, "we ought to get to the source and clean up the smokestacks."

He is using the huge, circular fountain in the Hirshhorn's inner courtyard to create a somewhat bewildering sculptural message about the folly of man's destruction of the environment.

Schoolchildren stared open-mouthed through the windows of the Hirshhorn's lobby as Simpson, splashed through the fountain in hip waders, making last-minute adjustments to his art work with a monkey wrench. The sculpture opened Wednesday for public viewing through July 23.

Simpson's creation includes a semicircle of large plastic drums connected to gushing fire hoses, two aluminium canoes filled with potted saplings, a ring of submerged limestone tablets and, next to the fountain, a satellite dish and an aluminium plate bearing the likeness of George Washington.

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Bonn, Moscow hold arms talks

Kohl remains firm

BONN, May 13, (AP): Increasing the pressure for superpower talks on short-range nuclear weapons, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met today with the West German foreign minister, whose support for Kremlin disarmament views has divided the NATO alliance.

Shevardnadze and his West German counterpart, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, met over coffee at a government guesthouse in the wooded enclave of Venusberg, then toasted an Armenian aid agreement with champagne.

The two foreign ministers were jovial and relaxed as they spoke through their interpreters about military and economic issues, on which they hold views that are closer than within the NATO bloc.

Genscher is the driving force behind West Germany's recent insistence that the superpowers open a new round of disarmament talks aimed at eliminating short-range missiles.



Kohl (right) speaks to Shevardnadze as they enter Kohl's office.

Bush revives old proposal

Surveillance call

COLLEGE STATION, Texas, May 12, (Agencies): President George Bush, urging a US-Soviet friendship "that knows no season of suspicion," has revived a 30-year-old proposal on surveillance flights.

In a speech yesterday, one of a series of planned foreign-policy addresses, Bush praised Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's political reforms and new policies of openness, but he also declared, "Mr Gorbachev, don't stop now."

To show there is nothing to hide, he suggested, other members of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact and of NATO should join the superpowers in allowing unarmed, aerial intelligence-gathering flights over their territories.

"The very Soviet willingness to embrace such a concept would reveal their commitment to change," Bush said.

The speech came a day after Gorbachev told US Secretary of State James Baker the Soviets would withdraw 500 short-range nuclear weapons in Eastern Europe. He also proposed each side cut conventional forces, including one million soldiers each.

Bush did not respond directly to that gesture, though he called on the Soviet to make deeper cuts in conventional forces.

Following are the highlights:

■ Open skies: Bush revived an Eisenhower-era proposal to allow unarmed surveillance flights over the Soviet Union, the United States, Eastern and Western Europe to complement surveillance satellites in monitoring military activities.

■ Soviet emigration and trade: If Soviet Union eases restrictions on emigration, Bush said he would work with Congress to waive the so-called Jackson-Vanik amendment and give the Soviet Union most favoured nation trading status, bringing it on a par with other US trading partners.

■ New arms control talks: He applauded the planned resumption in June of US-Soviet talks on reduction of strategic forces and supported NATO efforts to cut Soviet conventional weapons threat in Europe.

■ Power balance: Despite recent Soviet pledges of unilateral reductions in troop strength, tanks and some missile warheads, Bush said the Kremlin must go further in reducing its big numerical edge in conventional forces.

■ Beyond containment: Bush said the West could now move beyond the post-World War Two notion of containing Soviet expansion and could "seek the integration of the Soviet Union into the community of nations."

■ Iron curtain: He urged the Soviets to "tear down the iron curtain" as proof they are committed to open relations.

US to evaluate potential of anti-missile devices

WASHINGTON, May 13, (Reuters): The use of small, orbiting anti-missile weapons known as "brilliant pebbles" in the US space defence system has great potential and will be evaluated this summer, the director of the programme said yesterday.

"Potentially, it's a very valuable concept," Lieutenant General George Monahan, the director of the Strategic Defence Initiative, commonly known as Star Wars, told reporters at a Defence Department briefing.

"We're not ready to bite on 'brilliant pebbles.' That's why we're doing an in-depth evaluation," Monahan said.

Defence officials last month announced what they called a key step towards development of space-based "brilliant pebbles" interceptors, designed to destroy enemy nuclear missiles in flight.

They said the first model of such an interceptor hovered in the air for 20 seconds using small thrust engines.

Monahan said two separate teams would review the plan this summer and should have recommendations on further development by September.

The proposal calls for putting hundreds of "brilliant pebbles" in earth orbit to detect and shoot down intercontinental nuclear missiles after they were launched.

The interceptors could communicate with each other and with other satellites to find the Soviet warheads.

The "brilliant pebbles," which would cost several hundred thousand dollars each, could replace or augment the larger, more expensive missiles and laser systems now planned for SDI, Monahan said.

He said about \$46 million would be spent on the "brilliant pebbles" programme this year. He said the "brilliant pebbles" could be launched by conventional rockets and stay in orbit for 10 years or more.

Labour's defence policy denounced

PERTH, Scotland, May 13, (AP): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher yesterday denounced the opposition Labour Party's new nuclear defence policy as a "mishmash of muddle and evasion."

"This isn't a defence policy to see Britain through the 21st century and beyond," she told a party rally in the Scottish city of Perth. "It's a form of words to see

the Labour Party through the next general election."

Labour, which has lost three successive general elections to Thatcher's Conservative Party since 1979, moved this week toward scrapping its vote-winning ideology of unilateral nuclear disarmament.

Leader Neil Kinnock persuaded Labour's governing

Most of the NATO short-range missile stockpile is based in West Germany.

Shevardnadze yesterday repeated the Kremlin's call for talks on the short-range weapons, and said the Soviet Union's ultimate goal is the total elimination of those arsenals.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, joining other alliance leaders, said after his talks with Shevardnadze yesterday that scrapping the weapons was out of the question as long as the Warsaw Pact had superior numbers of conventional forces and tactical nuclear weapons.

But Kohl held firm on West Germany's position that negotiations should be held promptly to reduce the short-range nuclear forces, known as SNF in arms control circles.

Shevardnadze and Genscher also discussed plans for the June 12-15 visit to West Germany of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, although those details were not immediately disclosed.

Bonn's insistence on short-range arms negotiations has split the alliance before a NATO summit scheduled for the end of this month.

Shevardnadze arrived in Bonn one day after Gorbachev announced a new arms reduction initiative during a meeting in Moscow with US Secretary of State James Baker.

Gorbachev reiterated his call for negotiations on short-range nuclear weapons, and also announced a proposal to withdraw 500 Soviet battlefield nuclear weapons from Europe unilaterally.

Baker rejected the call for talks on short-range nuclear arsenals, and said the other part of the initiative was a public relations move.

After arriving in Bonn, Shevardnadze referred to Baker's reaction to Gorbachev's initiative.

"I wouldn't exactly say that our idea has stirred up a lot of enthusiasm among the Americans," Shevardnadze said before beginning talks with West German leaders.

US National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft brushed off the Soviet plan as a ploy designed mainly to split the Atlantic alliance.

Earlier yesterday, Kohl praised the new Soviet initiative but also urged the Kremlin to take further steps to erase its advantages in conventional and nuclear forces.

The chancellor said he believed the Soviet proposals could give impetus to movement in disarmament discussions.

"I think we are on the right path," Kohl said.

Gorbachev's initiative has put new pressure on the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation as it tries to work out its dispute over short-range nuclear weapons.

West Germany also wants superpower talks on reducing tactical nuclear arsenals, but it does not advocate their complete removal under the current balance of military power in Europe.

The US and Britain fear such talks could lead to total elimination of those arsenals in the face of the Warsaw Pact's superior conventional forces.

The Soviet Union and West Germany are expected to sign a number of agreements during Gorbachev's visit that will expand trade, cultural and business ties.

Tass said yesterday that Soviet tank and air defence units will begin withdrawing from Mongolia on Monday, the same day Gorbachev begins a visit to neighbouring China.

Under a previously announced withdrawal, the units will leave the Mongolian railroad stations of Erdenet and Choir and pass through the border at the Soviet city of Kyakhta, the official Soviet news agency said.

Help for Bangladesh heatwave victims

DHAKA, May 13, (Reuters): Volunteers set up emergency medical tents in northern Bangladesh to treat thousands of victims of a heatwave that has killed at least 60 people in past six days, officials said today.

Most victims were suffering from dehydration, fever and boils. A number also complained of lung diseases caused by high temperatures.

Officials said the effects of the heatwave, in which temperatures have risen to 44

degrees Celsius (112 degrees Fahrenheit), diminished slightly when five cm (two inches) of rain fell on a large area.

The government has closed all schools in the north and advised people not to walk in the sun without protection.

Doctors have advised people to drink saline water to beat the heat and asked pregnant women to take particular care.

The heatwave was caused by a drought

which weather forecasters said was the longest in 40 years. It has baked crops, dried up canals and rivers and made millions jobless.

Officials said the drought had damaged nearly two million tonnes of rice and jute and prevented planting of new crops.

The government ordered another 20,000 tubewells to be drilled in drought-hit areas after 25,000 people caught diarrhoea from drinking contaminated water.

The drought is the latest natural disaster to hit Bangladesh.

A cyclone whirled through the drought-stricken Nilphamari district, killing two people and destroying more than 5,000 mud-and-straw houses, officials said today.

Yesterday's storm brought welcome rains to Nilphamari and two other districts in the northwestern corner of the country.



Last meal

Wearing headbands saying 'hunger strike,' students at Beijing University sat down to a huge last meal paid for by sympathetic teachers yesterday. The pro-democracy protesters began an indefinite hunger strike on Tiananmen Square to demand dialogue with the government. (Reuters wirephoto)

Ito's no leaves Japan in limbo

TOKYO, May 13, (Reuters): Japan's ruling party today formally abandoned its pursuit of Masayoshi Ito to take over as prime minister in the wake of the Recruit share scandal, leaving the leadership in limbo.

Political analysts said Ito's refusal to allow business as usual as the successor to Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita had thrown Japanese politics into complete disarray and, some said, the way was clear for reforms.

Ito's stand against the big-money politics and the influence of special interest groups which led to the Recruit scandal has seriously embarrassed the party.

He was the only one of the senior leaders of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) untouched by the scandal.

Some commentators believe Ito could still become premier.

"There is no-one else who is suitable and who has been left unscathed by Recruit. Everyone will have to reconsider their positions and nothing is certain," said one, who declined to be named.

But other analysts said senior party leaders remained anxious to avoid wholesale changes.

Ito had already formally declined the premiership yesterday, although both LDP officials and political analysts felt his decision might have been a tactical move to bring more concessions from his colleagues to help him clean up Japanese politics.

Ryutaro Hashimoto, LDP deputy secretary-general, told reporters the search for a new prime minister would resume next Tuesday when the LDP's executive and general councils meet.

The reputations of the LDP leaders as powerbrokers have been dented by Ito's refusal and the Japanese media is speculating that LDP secretary-general Shirogane Ake, facing gall stone surgery next week, will resign as a result.

Hashimoto said he would be taking on Abe's role in the negotiations to find a successor for Takeshita, the most senior party figure to be caught in the Recruit scandal.

Recruit, a large and aggressive telecommunications and publishing group, paid out some 10 billion yen (\$75 million) in bribes to secure political contributions and other donations to dozens of politicians, civil servants and businessmen.

Lanka bill postponed

COLOMBO, May 13, (KUNA): The Sri Lanka Parliament yesterday postponed decision on the Provincial Council Special Amendment Bill due to opposition demands asking for more time to debate the bill, according to official sources.

The main opposition, Sri Lanka Freedom Party accused the government of depriving them of adequate time to debate the bill. Opposition members also argued that the bill seeks to grant provincial councils more power than was necessary.

Sex book banned

Punish 'China's Rushdie'

Hunger strike

Demand for democracy

BEIJING, May 13, (UPI): Calling for punishment of "China's Rushdie," more than 2,000 Chinese Muslims marched through Beijing yesterday to vent anger over a book they labelled blasphemous and a distortion of Islamic sexual practices.

The march followed a decision by authorities in western China to ban the book, "Xing Fengsu," or "Sexual Customs," after a local chapter of the official Islamic association lodged angry protests.

"Severely punish China's Rushdie," more than 2,000 Chinese Muslims and members of five Islamic minorities chanted as they marched to a mosque visited just days before by Iranian President Ali Khamenei.

The slogan was a reference to British author Salman Rushdie's novel The Satanic Verses, the contents of which, considered blasphemous by Muslims, prompted a Feb 14 death sentence decree against the author by Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

"Sexual Customs," a look at the sexual practices of world religions and races, has angered Chinese Muslims.

The contents of this book offend not only our religion but our race as well," said a Kazakh freshman from the Central Minorities Institute who took part in the 20-mile (30-km) march.

"It is full of lies and slander and we demand redress for this insult," he said.

Students at the institute

announced a boycott of classes to protest the publication of the book and the government's failure to prevent it from being printed.

Though the nation has been rocked by student unrest and pro-democracy demonstrations since mid-April, yesterday's march marked the first street protest related to religion.

Protesters applied for and received permission for the march from the Beijing public security bureau, making it the first legal street protest in nearly a month of nation-wide demonstrations.

The protesters said the book, written by two Chinese using the pen names Ke Le and Sang Ya, was the latest in the string of works written by Han Chinese authors that have distorted and maligned their faith.

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Gorbachev will find common ground

Reformers to meet

BEIJING, May 13, (AP): When Soviet and Chinese leaders last met in Beijing, Nikita Khrushchev hurried out of town with a dour look on his face and put summit between the socialist giants on hold for 30 years.

A new Soviet leader is coming to town on Monday, and better results are expected.

Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will try to use his political skills and reformist fervour to win over Chinese leaders, who long had viewed their Soviet counterparts with suspicion.

Chinese experts believe Gorbachev will find common ground with Deng Xiaoping, the 84-year-old leader who transformed China with market-oriented policies that resurrected the nation's crippled economy.

"The two are reformers," said Xing Shuang, a leading Sovietologist at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

"They ought to have a common

language."

Gorbachev also will meet Chinese Communist Party leader Zhao Ziyang, who is closely identified with the economic reforms, and Premier Li Peng, who studied engineering in the Soviet Union.

One Western diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Gorbachev's meeting with Zhao might go particularly well because "they are men of vision" who are both under pressure for adopting risky reforms.

Amicable meetings would go far to erase the unpleasant memories of the last summit, a frosty affair in September 1959 between Mao Tse-tung and Nikita Khrushchev, whose relationship was marked by vast ideological differences and mutual distrust.

Khrushchev had angered Mao by seeking peaceful co-existence with the United States and by

refusing to back Beijing's attempt to recover Taiwan, where the Chinese Nationalists had set up a rival government after losing a civil war to the communists.

Mao viewed the Soviet moves as selling out to the capitalists.

By the end of the 1959 summit, the Chinese-Soviet rift was out in the open. "Khrushchev wasn't wearing a smile" as he departed for Moscow, recalled Zhu Ruzhen, a Russian interpreter for Mao during the 1950s.

The animosity between Mao and Khrushchev, which helped exacerbate the split between the two countries, was not solely ideological.

"Khrushchev and Mao never got along," said a Ministry of Foreign Affairs official who worked for several years in the Chinese embassy in Moscow.

"Mao was introverted and Khrushchev was very flashy. That contributed to the problem."

Nepal thanks Dhaka for help

KATHMANDU, May 13, (AP): Foreign Minister Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya of Nepal left yesterday for Dhaka to express his gratitude to Bangladesh for providing his country with essential commodities after India's trade and transit blockade.

"I would like to meet friends in Dhaka as well," Upadhyaya told newsmen before his departure for Bangladesh on his way to Zimbabwe.

India imposed the blockade upon the expiration of the Indo-Nepalese treaties on trade and transit.

In Harare, Zimbabwe, Upadhyaya was scheduled to attend a five-day ministerial meeting of the co-ordinating bureau of the non-aligned countries starting Monday.

The convention is to prepare the groundwork for the ninth non-aligned summit to be held in Yugoslavia in September.

Asked whether he would meet Indian External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao at Harare, Upadhyaya said: "Of course, I will try to meet him. When the two foreign ministers meet, they can discuss anything."

The Harare get together between the two foreign ministers will be the first since they met in New Delhi, in March, when Upadhyaya submitted fresh proposals for new trade and transit treaties.

The Indians said, however, that they preferred to have a single treaty covering both trade and transit. The disagreement arose when the Nepalese pointed out that transit was the permanent right of a land-locked country and insisted on the need for a separate transit treaty for conducting trade with third countries.

India disagreed, and when the treaties expired on March 23, Nepal stopped supplying most of India's essential commodities, including petroleum products, which gave rise to severe shortages in its northern neighbour.

Two killed in Kashmir disturbance

NEW DELHI, May 13, (AP): Gunmen believed to be members of secessionist groups clashed with police in Srinagar, capital of Jammu-Kashmir state yesterday, killing at least two people and injuring 30, news reports said.

The Press Trust of India and United News of India news agencies said the secessionist groups had ordered a strike call in the predominantly Muslim state demanding release of their comrades from prison.

Soon after Friday's prayers, about 1,500 Muslims attacked a police station in downtown Srinagar. Police fired at the crowd after some of the armed masked militants were spotted in the group, the reports said.

The identities of the victims were not immediately known.

The secessionist groups in Srinagar want either to create a separate nation for Kashmir Muslim or join Pakistan.

Pilgrims drown

BHOPAL, May 13, (Reuters): At least 14 Hindu pilgrims drowned and two were missing after a boat sank in the Narmada river in central India, police said.

The pilgrims were on their way to take a ritual bath on Friday when the boat sprang a leak. Eight people survived.

No truce until Vietnam withdraws: Khmer Rouge

BANGKOK, May 13, (AP): The Khmer Rouge, Cambodia's largest resistance group, says it will not agree to a ceasefire until Vietnam withdraws its occupying troops under international supervision and all other forces are disarmed and reduced.

Meanwhile, just before Monday's opening of the first Sino-Soviet summit in 30 years, Vietnam criticised China for calling on the Kremlin to pressure Vietnam into a resolution of the Cambodian conflict.

In another development, non-communist

resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, warned today that the communist Khmer Rouge will "try to launch a blitzkrieg against Phnom Penh" after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge killed hundreds of thousands of people when it ruled Cambodia from 1975 until Vietnam invaded Cambodia in late 1978 and ousted it from power. It has rejected all of the recent peace proposals of Sihanouk and Hun Sen, Premier of the Phnom Penh government.

The Khmer Rouge yesterday dismissed calls for an immediate truce as a trick it said the Vietnamese also used during the war with the United States to prepare for a military offensive. A text of the broadcast was seen in Bangkok today.

Thailand recently proposed a ceasefire before Vietnam's withdrawal, and the Vietnamese-installed government and non-communist guerrilla groups have agreed to it.

The Khmer Rouge rejected the proposal on Monday.

Families live on nerves in Beirut shelters during barrages

Families protest
AMMAN, May 13, (Reuters): About 50 relatives of political suspects detained during Jordanian riots last month staged a protest outside the prime minister's office today.

Water rationing
DAMASCUS, May 13, (Reuters): Syria is to ration water in the capital following a disastrous drop in winter rainfall, the city chief engineer said today.

Aid programme
UNITED NATIONS, May 13, (AP): Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar yesterday announced a \$19.4-million emergency aid programme for a million people in Somalia who have been driven from their homes by war and rebellion.

Sh. Khalifa's visit
CAIRO, May 13, (AP): Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, crown prince of the Abu Dhabi, arrived today for talks with senior Egyptian officials on bilateral relations and the Middle East situation.

Rebel offensive
MOSCOW, May 13, (Reuters): Afghan government troops have beaten off a new rebel offensive on the besieged eastern city of Jalalabad, the Soviet news agency Tass said.

Sheikh Issa's visit
MANAMA, May 13, (KUNA): The Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa will start tomorrow an official three-day visit to Iraq, Gulf News Agency reported today.

Yemen's unity
ABU DHABI, May 13, (KUNA): Foreign Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Abdul Aziz Al Dali described the establishment of the Arab Co-operation Council (ACC) as "the birth of the sought-for Arab unity."

Moroccan premier
TUNIS, May 13, (KUNA): Moroccan Prime Minister Azizeddine Laraki will on Monday pay an official three-day visit to Tunisia in response to an invitation of his Tunisian opposite number El Hedi Baccouche.

\$3b aid request
OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, May 13, (AP): Israel submitted its annual request for US economic and military aid yesterday asking for \$3 billion, the same sum of money received last year, Israeli radio reported.

Pak-Syria talks
DAMASCUS, May 13, (KUNA): A Pakistani parliamentary delegation, headed by the parliament speaker Malik Meraj Khalid, arrived here yesterday on a week-long visit to Syria at the invitation of his Syrian opposite number Abdel Qader Qadoura.

Protest march
SAN FRANCISCO, May 13, (Reuters): Several hundred women yesterday marched to the Turkish consulate here to plan for the removal of Turkish troops from Cyprus, organisers said.

BEIRUT, May 13, (AP): The Munaymneh family and their neighbours tumbled into the underground shelter in their apartment block when a 155mm howitzer shell exploded in the street, signalling another round of fierce artillery battles in Beirut.

Some days, as many as 25,000 shells and rockets are fired by both sides. Mrs Munaymneh clutched two bottles of drinking water. Her husband, Rafik, and the boys carried chairs, blankets and mattresses.

There were 18 people in the shelter. They slipped into the routine of life underground while exploding shells and artillery guns thundered above them. The men lit kerosene lanterns and huddled to talk politics. The women spread out mattresses in the

parking lots, then foraging for food and water or patching up their damaged homes and businesses during the lulls, nervously listening for the first thud of shellfire that heralds another barrage.

"sleeping corner" and food supplies in the part of the shelter Munaymneh called "the dining room." — the area around a small cooker used to fix tea or coffee or to heat canned food.

shipping agent, took his family to Damascus, Syria. He brought them back to Beirut on April 30, one day after Arab foreign ministers called for a ceasefire in Lebanon.



Dummy armoured cars

Israeli Army jeeps escort a convoy of dummy 'armoured cars' built by Jewish settlers from cardboard mounted on vans. The vehicles are replicas of the makeshift armoured vehicles used by Israel in the 1948 fighting against Arab forces. (Reuters wirephoto)

Shamir backed Curfew on Gaza lifted partially

GAZA, May 13, (Agencies): Israel partially lifted a round-the-clock curfew on the occupied Gaza Strip today but kept about 150,000 Palestinians restricted to their homes, an Army spokesman said.

Soldiers on jeeps drove through Gaza City and nearby camps announcing over loudspeakers the end of the curfew imposed on the strip since last Monday evening to curb violence during Israel's Memorial and Independence Day holidays.

Thousands of troops were searching Gaza and southern Israel today for Ilan Sardon, a 19-year-old soldier missing for 10 days and feared kidnapped by Palestinian extremists, Israeli Radio reported.

Security sources said the Army had kept the curfew clamped on the Gaza Strip after the Israeli holidays to aid their hunt. Soldiers kept the 150,000 residents of Shati, Jabalya and Nuseirat refugee camps and parts of Rafah and Gaza City under a 24-hour a day curfew because of demonstrations yesterday.

A 24-year-old Palestinian was shot and killed by troops and two of his friends were wounded when they broke the curfew to stage a protest against the killing of an Arab on Thursday night.

The Army spokesman said there were also curfews on the Tulkarm, Nur Shams refugee camps and Anabta and Danaba villages in the occupied West Bank today.

Police Minister Haim Bar-Lev said those Arabs suspected of kidnapping Sardon and paratrooper Avi Saportas, who was found dead this week.

Test
Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, buoyed by Labour Party support for his Palestinian elections plan, will try today to persuade doubters within his own Likud Party to support the idea.

Shamir is expected to present a draft document outlining his peace proposals to Likud ministers and seems sure of winning endorsement for them at a full cabinet discussion tomorrow.

The Labour Party, junior partner in Shamir's national unity government, approved on Thursday Shamir's proposal for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for Palestinian representatives to negotiate autonomy for 1.7 million Arabs.

WHO defers decision on PLO till next year

Arafat condemns US

GENEVA, May 13, (Agencies): Under US prodding, the World Health Organisation has deferred until next year a decision on whether to admit the PLO's self-declared state of Palestine as its 167th member.

Following yesterday's vote, the PLO vowed it will continue its struggle for membership of the declared state in United Nations agencies.

The WHO annual assembly voted 83-47 in a secret ballot yesterday in favour of a resolution co-sponsored by nine Western and Third World countries. It coupled the deferral with a call for more aid to residents of Israeli-occupied lands, where a Palestinian uprising began 17 months ago. Twenty members abstained.

The State Department in Washington hailed the action, saying the organisation "rejected the PLO's efforts to politicise WHO's important work."

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat has bitterly condemned the United States for blocking the Palestinian entry into the WHO, labelling Washington's moves "threats and blackmail."

Arafat, on a one-day working visit to Harare for talks with President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe in his capacity as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, sharply rebuked a reporter who said the PLO appeared to be meeting "resistance" in attempts to join WHO.

"It is not resistance," Arafat said. "It is American pressure, threats and blackmail."

"It is the American administration that declared the threat that they would withdraw all their financial help to the World Health Organisation," Arafat said.

"So it is not resistance. So be accurate for your report. It is the threat and blackmail from the American administration," he said.

The vote dashed PLO hopes on winning voting rights in all major UN agencies this year after its legislature in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia, last November proclaimed the "state of Palestine."



Arafat

get. Nabil Ramlawi, chief of the PLO mission in Geneva, said the outcome of "the conspiracy against this request by the state of Palestine... will give us more power to continue our diplomatic struggle."

"We will insist to get into all the international organisations and we believe this is our right," he told reporters.

Ramlawi called its dialogue with the United States "another matter" and said it would continue.

Some 100 mostly Third World countries have formally recognised or acknowledged the Palestinian state. But Washington, backed by most Western allies, claimed such a state did not fulfil international criteria, partly because it had no defined territory.

The United States said the PLO's UN membership bid threatens Middle East peace efforts.

The Soviet Union joined in supporting the resolution. Soviet Health Minister E.I. Chazov told the assembly earlier that Moscow wanted to find a "solution avoiding confrontation."

Several Third World delegates said many developing countries apparently worried that a US pullout from WHO would wreck programmes benefiting them.

US Assistant Secretary of State John Bolton said a majority opposed admission because Washington had persuaded many governments that the proclaimed state is not a real one.

See Israeli lobby Page 8

Greek dilemma

Extradite Rashid, asks US

WASHINGTON, May 13, (Agencies): The United States said it was pleased by the Greek Supreme Court's ruling yesterday that a suspected Palestinian commando was eligible for extradition, and urged the justice minister to approve the decision.

The Supreme Court in Athens upheld an extradition order for Mohammed Rashid, sought by the United States for the 1982 bombing of a Pan Am jetliner in Hawaii which killed one person and injured 15.

Rashid had appealed a lower court ruling granting his extradition, but the high court put off making a decision on the sensitive case three times.

"We welcome this decision by the Greek Supreme Court," said State Department spokesman Richard Boucher.

"We note that this decision was made against the background of threats by terrorists who sought to unsuccessfully intimidate the Greek judicial process," he added.

According to Greek law, the minister of justice has the final say in any extradition case, but a decision could be postponed until after the June 18 general elections.

Mubarak awaits official invitation

Emergency Arab summit

CAIRO, May 13, (Agencies): Egyptian President Mubarak will wait for an official invitation to an emergency Arab summit in Morocco this month before flying to Casablanca, a leading columnist says.

In today's mass-circulation Al Akhbar newspaper, Ibrahim Saada criticised Arabs for wanting to invite Mubarak during a preparatory meeting on the eve of the May 23 summit.

"We do not accept that our President should sit beside a telephone all through the meeting, waiting either to be invited to

attend the summit or to be told that the invitation has been postponed," Saada wrote.

Most Arab states have restored ties with Egypt, suspended from the Arab League for making peace with Israel in 1979. Only Libya, Syria and Lebanon have not resumed full relations.

An official source in Morocco said Mubarak was expected to be invited during the summit's opening session to join other Arab leaders.

He said such a step had to be taken because only the summit itself could invite Egypt to resume its seat in the 22-member League as a similar gathering had ordered its suspension.

Saada said Egyptians were sure that Mubarak would not accept that scenario. Unless he received the same treatment as other Arab leaders, and the same official invitation before the summit, he would not take part.

"It is certain that Mubarak will not answer their call and will not participate in the summit to safeguard his dignity which is the dignity of the Egyptian people," Saada said.



Mubarak same fooling

UN official's role still under investigation

LONDON, May 13, (AP): Four months after the flight 103 bombing, the US Federal Bureau of Investigation is still inquiring about the suitcase carried by one of the victims, Bernt Carlsson, the United Nations commissioner for Namibia, a news report said today.

The London newspaper the Independent said it was clear from conversations with Carlsson's family and friends that investigators have not ruled out the possibility, despite other news reports to the contrary, that he was the unwitting carrier of the bomb.

The paper noted that other reports have said the FBI and the Central Intelligence Agency have concluded the bombing was done by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command at Iran's behest.

It said these reports stated that a US student who had an Arab boyfriend may have been tricked into bringing the device on board.

New York-bound Pan Am flight 103 was blown over Lockerbie in Scotland last Dec 21, killing all 259 people aboard and 11 on the ground. The flight originated in Frankfurt in West Germany, changing planes at London's Heathrow airport.

The Independent said in its report from New York: "Carlsson, who was on his way back to New York on Pan Am flight 103, was to have attended the signing ceremony between Cuba, Angola and South Africa.

Husseini proposes joint council between Lebanon, Syria

KUWAIT, May 13, (KUNA): Speaker of the Lebanese House of Representatives (parliament) Hussein Al Husseini was of the opinion of establishing a co-operation council between Lebanon and Syria due to the special and deep-rooted relationship between the two countries.

"Relations between Lebanon and Syria since 1920 were always unstable although relations between the Lebanese and Syria people were most ideal and consistent. There are family, social, and legacy bonds between the two countries in various fields. We have more in common more than between any two Arab countries," Husseini said.

With regard to last March's break out of savage artillery shelling in Lebanon, Husseini held head of the interim military government Gen. Michel Aoun responsible for the plot to take over power with the assistance of local and foreign powers he did not name.

Husseini accused Gen Aoun of planning bombardment of East and West Beirut to create an opportunity for an unnamed international circle to raise the issue at the UN Security Council with the aim of issuing a resolution providing for establishment of an international force under the pretext of disengagement between the two warring forces.

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Dr Al Awadi delivering the opening speech.

Kuwait needs more nurses

Nursing week opens

KUWAIT, May 13, (KUNA): Planning Minister and acting Health Minister Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi today said that observing the International Nurse Day re-affirms the important humanitarian role of the nurse in offering the necessary care for patients.

In an opening address, marking the nursing week in Kuwait, Dr Awadi, who represents HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, indicated that celebrating this day is of great importance in elevating the level of nursing services by exchanging views and expertise in this field.

He also emphasised the significance of possessing a full desire to face the hardships of the profession and the wrong concepts that some have despite the noble services the nurse offers.

Awadi called on Kuwaiti and Arab women to pursue nursing as a profession, particularly as the Health Ministry seeks large numbers of nurses to meet the growing health needs in the country.

On this occasion, secretary-general of the Kuwait Red Crescent Society, Barges Hmoud Al Barges said that the celebration is a distinguished mark of the generous care given by HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier to human beings in this country.

Barges, who is also KUNA's board chairman and director-general, added that Kuwait has always been among the pioneers to extend a helping hand to the needy in this world, affirming that Kuwait awaits no thanks by doing so.

Sacrifices
He said that the nurse, who sacrifices life and effort in order to ease up the pains of others, performs her duty in hospitals and combat fields regardless of the patient's colour, sex or religion.

In a similar speech, Mariam Al Ragem, chairman of Kuwait Nursing Society which is sponsoring the celebration, thanked HH the Crown Prince and Premier for patronising the event.

In an earlier interview with a local daily Ragem said that the

information media played a powerful role in setting up the right image of the nurse, and that the nurse is a human being was as such not without faults.

She urged the ministry to increase the salaries of nurses to be commensurate with duties performed by them, and recommended that nurses should not be assigned to do jobs that did not fall within the line of their profession.

Important

Commenting on the International Nurse Day and Kuwait Nursing Week celebrations, Ragem said the association was planning to honour a number of local figures who had played a considerably important role in the development of the nursing field in the country, mainly HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister and senior government officials.

She pointed out that the duties of the nurse included the referral of serious cases to other more specialised medical centres, rectification of erroneous health patterns and administration of preventive health programmes to students as well as performance of regular health tests.

She recommended the adjustment of existing by-laws on the nursing profession, setting the age limit of nominated nurses at a maximum of 35 and fixing time lapse for re-employment in the same field after leaving work at two years.

Ragem said that the mixture of nationalities could have contributed to furnishing the image of the nursing profession in the country, emphasising that she personally requested the Minister of Information, Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah to ban all TV programmes that portrayed a bad image of nurses.

She said that the existing staff shortage at certain health centres could be sorted out through the return of nurses to work, and stopping work unrelated to their professional expertise.

She stressed the importance of co-operation and between doctors and nurses in the service of the medical profession, pointing out that nurses worked with the doctors not for them.

OIC urges scientific advance

Pakistan president presides over inaugural session

ISLAMABAD, May 13, (KUNA): Dr Ali Abdullah Al Shamlan, the Minister for Higher Education of Kuwait, today conveyed the greetings of His Highness the Amir to the fourth meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference standing committee on Scientific and Technological Co-operation (COMSTEC), which opened here today.

Shamlan conveyed HH the Amir's greetings at the inaugural session of the meeting, presided over by Pakistan President Ghulam Ishaq Khan at the spacious auditorium of the state bank building this morning.

Later addressing the inaugural session Dr Shamlan, who is heading a 2-member Kuwaiti delegation to the 3-day meeting, said that his country was currently engaged in compiling a "Muslim World Encyclopedia" that would become a documentary record of Islamic world's geographic aspects and his-

toric development and its present reality, reflecting its features of population, food, education, social welfare and other walks of life.

The Kuwaiti minister said that he was pleased to inform the 4th COMSTEC meeting that work on this encyclopaedia was going on very smoothly with the co-operation of the Ministry of Planning and scientific institutions in and outside the state of Kuwait.

Many experts from the Muslim world, he said, were co-operating with Kuwait in this project, including experts from brotherly country of Pakistan.

This encyclopaedia, Dr Shamlan hoped, would become one of the scientific basis that could be of some help in identifying the scientific projects (of COMSTEC), their distribution and the follow-up of their growth.

He recalled that HH the Amir of Kuwait

had declared when he met heads of Muslim delegations in New York in September 1988 that Kuwait would prepare an atlas of the Muslim world with the objective of ensuring smooth Islamic scientific co-operation and out of a desire to give a comprehensive and clear image of the Islamic world.

Referring to the projects of the COMSTEC the leader of Kuwaiti delegation said one of the most important aspects of success in this endeavour was to strike a happy balance between the capabilities of the people of the Islamic world and their aspirations.

Taking into consideration the present circumstances of the Islamic world, we the Kuwaitis perceive that the aspirations of the Muslim people were far greater than their capabilities.

18.8 million people in Gulf states — survey

THE total population of the GCC countries amounted to 18.8 million in 1986 according to a report published today by Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) Secretariat General.

The report said that Saudi Arabia's population represented 70.3 per cent of the member states population while the population of Qatar represented 2.1 per cent.

The report clarified that the GCC citizens represented about 64.4 per cent of the population while the expatriates represented 35.6 per cent. The report which had been published by the GCC Economic Bulletin and carried by Gulf News Agency said that there were 3.1 million workers in the member states except Oman, according to statistics collected in 1987 with 49.2 per cent in Saudi Arabia.

Regarding education in the GCC member states, the number of students in the six member states had amounted to 3.3 million during the academic year 1986/1987 with 90 per cent studying in government schools, the report said.

Speaking of the health utilities in the GCC countries, the report said that such utilities had witnessed a significant expansion and tangible development in the member states, clarifying that the hospitals administered by the member states' ministries of public health had amounted to 262 hospitals in 1987 with an increase of 4 per cent compared to 1986.

Meanwhile, the report said that the vehicles which had crossed King Fahd Causeway since its opening on Nov 26, 1986 and up to Dec 31, 1987 had amounted to 1,663,422 with about 4.7 million passengers.

The report indicated that the GCC member states has 23 ports and 33 airports. The number of post offices in the GCC countries had recorded an increase of one per cent, while the number of telephone lines had been increased by 6 per cent to reach 1.72 million lines with 58.4 per cent in Saudi Arabia.

Speaking on the electricity sector, the report said that this sector had witnessed a tangible development during the last few years, clarifying that the power energy had realised a growth rate at 7 per cent in 1987 to reach 97.2 megawatts per hour while the consumption rate had been increased to 5 per cent and reached 88.9 megawatts per hour.

With regard to water resources, the report said that the produced water in the member states had amounted to 235.2 million gallons per day in 1987 with an increase of 4 per cent compared to the previous year.

Afro-Arab meeting

KUWAIT, May 13, (KUNA): The permanent committee for Afro-Arab Co-operation will hold a meeting in Kuwait on June 7-10.

The committee, better known as the committee of 24, groups 12 Arab foreign ministers and a similar number of African foreign ministers.

Authoritative sources told KUNA that the meeting will discuss ways of boosting the Afro-Arab co-operation in the fields of economy, commerce, culture and information.

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May Queen Sharon Nazareth (seated) flanked by Diana D'Mello (left) and Arlene D'Cruz (right) and the other finalists.

Goans crown May Queen

Photo finish for winner

Pretty young Sharon Nazareth was crowned May Queen Thursday night at the Kuwait Goans annual affair of the season at the Messiah Beach Hotel.

Sharon, a secretary, won in a photo finish with first runner-up Diana D'Mello when the judges unanimously decided that although Diana was the belle of the ball, Sharon showed more poise and a keen sense of humour.

Arlene D'Cruz came in third from a line up of ten finalists. The May Queen won a ticket

from Air India, Kuwait-Goa-Kuwait and two-day complimentary stay at the Goa Holiday Inn Heritage along with gifts in gold donated by Sam and Mabel Alphonso and other presents donated by the Malhotras. The runners-up received gold and cosmetic sets.

Alexandre Rosario billed as the highlight of the Rothmans sponsored evening was quite a disappointment to the waiting crowds especially as all of the songs in his repertoire were made in the 1960s. For the mostly

young crowd bred on Michael Jackson and others of his ilk, the fact that they couldn't rid themselves of their itchy feet was quite tormenting.

Alexandre's deep baritone voice was soothing and he received quite a few rounds of applause for some of his songs, especially the ones in Portuguese, but the organisers would have done well to let the attending bands Top Ranks and Next of Kin get on with the music and dancing. — N.J.

Major role in safety

Highway patrols efficient

KUWAIT's highways department is one of the most important departments here that preserves security and safety on highways. Police patrols are on duty day and night to prevent traffic accidents and to assist those in need.

A local daily interviewed the director of the highways department, Col Ahmad Al Mhoufi and a number of officers to highlight the nature of the work and the difficulties they encounter.

Mhoufi said that the highways department was established in 1981 with seven officers and 20 administration staff. Presently the department includes 74 different ranks of police officers and 36 patrols.

The department's responsibility includes the Asafar Expressway, the Fifth Ring Road, the Sixth Ring Road, the Seventh Ring Road, Al Maghrib Express Road, and Fahaheel Express Road. Department patrols cover all of these areas around the clock in three shifts.

The first starting from 6 am till 2 pm. The second from 2 pm until 10 pm and the third from 10 pm until 6 am.

The department is divided into three sections namely: the patrol

section, the violations issuance section and the road monitoring section. Mhoufi added that the Ministry of Public Works roads engineering department is fully linked to the highways department and is asked for assistance when accidents at bridges and roads problems occur.

The department issued 943 citations during the last quarter of 1988. On the other hand, 581 citations were issued from March 31, 1989 to date. Most citations are classified in the dangerous zone like speeding, driving without a licence, reckless driving, passing red traffic lights, driving while under the influence of alcohol, driving the wrong way, and driving without licence plates, Mhoufi said and added that the department issued a total of 760 different traffic citations on Feb 28, 1989 and 603 dangerous citations in Jan 31, 1989.

The department is sometimes forced to send undercover patrols to areas reported to be high in reckless driving incidents. Violators are brought to the departments and if found guilty, their driving licences are withdrawn along with their car registration books.

The department spreads safety

information amongst drivers through television, booklets, publications and radio. "Despite Kuwait's modern roads, some drivers still do not respect traffic rules," the official said.

On future plans, Mhoufi said that the department intends to develop its system and new radar detectors incorporated in the services at highways in the near future. The department will also be provided with highly advanced patrols that includes all rescue equipment and first aid equipment. The department is currently preparing traffic laws which will be applicable as soon as they are issued.

Replying on some of the complaints received by the department by residents who say that they were annoyed by patrols teasing some women drivers and pedestrians on streets, Mhoufi said that police officers do not annoy women. But, he said, there are some rare cases which are taken up seriously by the department.

"Currently the highways department has no intention of opening offices at express roads. But there will be offices as monitoring points in the future," he said.

Iraq urged to chart border

(Continued from Page 1)

Kuwait tomorrow.

Sheikh Saad hoped the 10th GCC summit to be held in Oman at the end of this year would be "the summit of peace", adding that Kuwait is looking forward to broader contribution by GCC nationals to the council's march through exchange of youth visits, and social and cultural activities.

On the possibility of formulating standard GCC economic incentives, Sheikh Saad said there might be at present some sort of disparity in the economic aspects of member countries, "which is something normal, but this should not curb or delay economic co-operation among the member states."

"We are quite certain that faith and true desire will bring about the desired co-operation and accomplish the GCC joint goals," said Sheikh Saad.

On how to implement the Amir's plan on the Third World debt problem, Sheikh Saad said, the initiative, which calls creditor countries to cancel interests on loans given to debtor countries, came from a creditor country and it is an open call to the international community to take practical steps to solve this problem, which threatens the economy of many developing countries.

The Crown Prince expressed hope that rich creditor countries, would respond to this humanitarian call and draw up practical steps toward this initiative through the United Nations or international financial organisations.

Replying to a question on maintaining security in the region and keeping it away from international conflicts after the ceasefire in the Iraq-Iran war, Sheikh Saad hoped Iraq and Iran would reach an agreement in peace negotiations, and open the door for comprehensive co-operation between all countries in the region.

He added that respecting the

sovereignty of the region's countries and non-interference in their internal affairs is the first step toward guaranteeing peace in the area and protecting it from international conflicts.

Sheikh Saad was asked on the practical steps that should be taken to establish just and lasting peace in the region in the light of the Palestinian uprising and the international understanding to this cause.

The Kuwaiti leader responded that the uprising was able to win the backing and understanding of the world to the just Palestinian cause and to impose a new stage of struggle against the Zionist occupation.

He expressed belief that time has come for the international community, particularly the superpowers, to put pressure on Israel and force it to stop its terrorism and atrocious policy against civilians in Gaza Strip and the West Bank and pullout from the occupied arab territories, especially following the important political step that was taken by the PLO towards achieving peace.

On the Arab League six-man committee on Lebanon, which is chaired by Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, the Crown Prince said that the committee has done everything possible to stop the bloodshed and destruction in Lebanon.

He pointed out that after establishing a ceasefire in Lebanon under Arab observers the committee will try to implement its political solution.

Sheikh Saad said there is no other alternative but to continue efforts to solve the crisis.

He added: "It is the duty of all the Arab countries and the international community, particularly the superpowers, to back the Arab six-man committee through practical measures to enable it to continue its mission in saving Lebanon and restoring peace and security to the war-torn country."

Trial of 33 coup plotters begins

(Continued from Page 1)

The session began by calling the 20 accused persons by names to approve their presence plus their defence lawyers (12 lawyers).

Confirmation took place of the attendance of the three witnesses (including the security officer who supervised the case).

The 20 accused persons in two separate enclosures were 14 Kuwaitis — Abdullah Essa Fairouz-35, Ahmed Hussein Sabti-36, Mohammed Hussein Ashkanani-28, Khalid Ahmed Bebbhani-27, Khalid Abdulrazzaq Al Boloshi-27, Yousif Hussein Bager-35, Ridah Baqir Bebbhani-37, Fadel Abbas Fakhaj-28, Mohammed Ahmed Al Khodrai-40, Khalid Jaber Al Otaibi-20, Saleh Ali Ibrahim-20, Sulaiman Mohammed Jarkhaji-25, Ahmed Abulrahman Abbas-25, Saleh Hamza Sarqoub-25, Mountadad Hussein Friaoud-19 stateless. Other accused attendants were two Iraqis (Hisham Moushais-27, Hussam Kaskh-27), two Lebanese (Sameer Awad-27, Mohammed Al Ali-33) and another Briton of Lebanese origin Sami Hujaj-40.

Nizar Hussein read the charges against the 33 accused. Hussein said that during the period 1979 until Dec 25, 1988, within Kuwait all defendants, except one, joined banned groups, the principles of which were to spread ideas aimed at destroying the basic systems of the country through illegal means and also to destroy the social and economic systems in Kuwait. They were aware of the conspiracy of this illegal group which is clear in the investigations. This has been recorded as the first charge.

Some of the defendants have been accused of organising and

calling for joining banned groups and publicly calling for overthrowing the country's regime through writings, drawings and pictures. They printed leaflets in which they included clear calls to the public to change the regime through illegal means. They printed photographs and distributed these leaflets in various parts of the country.

The accused publicly abused the person of HH Amir through the leaflets.

The defendants encouraged and conspired to commit the crimes and helped them by supplying, printing machines, materials and in photocopying leaflets.

One of the accused, a former clerk at the Public Ports Authority, divulged a defence secret of the country. He passed on secret informations from letters sent by the state security department to the other defendants and other unknown people.

Some of the defendants participated in a criminal conspiracy to kill a number of public officials and their children in Kuwait.

The conspiracy was professionally planned, the charges said. An engineer and supervisor at the Communications Ministry was charged with embezzling public money.

The prosecution demanded all defendants be punished according to the law. The evidence, gathered by the prosecution was enclosed with the charge-sheet. However, the evidence was not disclosed to the press.

The prosecution demanded that the hearing should be held in camera, to maintain public discipline. Later, defence lawyers Nader Al Awadi and Abdullah Abdul Gafour called for an open hearing.

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Two-year-old girl raped

A TWO-YEAR-OLD girl was the victim of a grisly sexual assault that resulted in her death.

Al Seyassah newspaper learnt that the victim was found dead on a Jabriya street with her body covered in bruises and burns. According to the coroner's report, the victim died as a result of sexual assault by an adult who then inflicted the bruises and burns on her body to conceal his crime and threw her body through the window of her mother's flat onto the street.

The mother, a nurse at Mubarak Al Kaber Hospital, was brought in for questioning preliminary to the full investigation of the crime.

Correction

In yesterday's edition of Arab Times, British Ambassador Peter Hinchcliffe was wrongly named as Sir Peter Moon. We apologise for the error.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri audiences

KUWAIT, May 13 (KUNA): HH the Amir today received HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Affairs Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah.

HH also received the Cuban Ambassador to Kuwait who booked permission to leave the country at the end of his tenure here.

New appointment

KUWAIT, May 13 (KUNA): HH the Amir received today the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Farouk Al Omar on the occasion of his appointment as secretary-general of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters.

Driving schools

DIRECTOR-GENERAL of the General Traffic Department and the chairman of Kuwait Company for Driving Schools, Brigadier Fuad Musaed Al Saleh, has said that the company has contracted with a local company for building the new driving school premises at the present site of the Capital Governorate. The Kuwaiti company paid KD1,032,505 last year for engineering studies to build the new driving schools. The administrative and other expenses of the company amounted to KD89,080 last year, Saleh said. Saleh pointed out that the Public Investment Authority will own 49,040,000 shares valued KD4,904,000 the balance being held by other subscribers. The capital of the company is made up of 50 million shares each valued at 100 fils. The company will begin commercial activities after completing its utilities, Saleh concluded.

WEATHER

HOT weather with moderate northerly wind may freshen at times. State of sea: moderate to rough. High water: 8.00 am, 6.00 pm. Low water: 12.00 noon. Sunrise: 4.56 am. Sunset: 6.32 pm. Maximum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 38°C/100°F. Abuhadi: 30°C/86°F. Falaika: 31°C/88°F. Minimum temperatures recorded: Kuwait: 25°C/77°F. Abuhadi: 25°C/77°F. Falaika: 26°C/79°F. Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 29 per cent. Abuhadi: 50 per cent.

Envoy hails Kuwaiti-Tunisian ties

An example for other countries

KUWAIT, May 13, (KUNA): Tunisian Ambassador to Kuwait Al Habib Khabashi said Saturday that Tunisia under the leadership of President Zine Al Abidine Bin Ali gives significant importance to developing Tunisian-Kuwaiti relations.

Khabashi told daily *Al Rai Al Aam* that Kuwait under the direction of HH the Amir and HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah is always keen on developing bilateral relations between the two countries in various fields.

The Tunisian diplomat said that Tunisian-Kuwaiti relations are an example to be followed by other countries, adding that they have developed and progressed over the past years due to visits exchanged by senior officials of the two countries.

Tunisian-Kuwaiti co-operation has developed and reached joint investment projects, including chemical industries in Turkey and China, the ambassador added.

Tunisian technical cadres are presently in Kuwait to help in construction and development projects Khabashi said.

Kuwait has assisted in financing various investment and infrastructure projects in various industrial, tourism and real estate projects, "I take this opportunity to thank officials in Kuwait topped by the Amir," Khabashi added.

Kuwait and Tunisia have centred on technical co-operation in the fields of education, health, electricity and other major fields there are also encouraging endeavours of co-operation in the field of agriculture, the Tunisian ambassador added.

Concerning Tunisian products exported to the Gulf, Khabashi said that Tunisia produces wheat, olive oil, dates, grapes, oranges, apricots, peaches, water melons and various other products. Forty kinds of agricultural products are exported to Kuwait and other Gulf

countries but in limited quantities and are transported by air and sea via European ports.

Tunisia uses special aircraft to deliver agricultural products to the Gulf states, he pointed out.

Khabashi said that Kuwaiti products are known in Tunisia and imports had reached 24.6 million Tunisian dinars for the year 1986 and 17.4 million Tunisian dinars in the year 1987, most of it in the form of metal, chemical and energy materials, the Tunisian diplomat concluded.

Meanwhile Japan's ambassador to Kuwait Saturday was quoted here as saying that the debts crisis needs international co-operation, and that his country supports the initiative of HH the Amir of Kuwait in this regard.

Tsuyoshi Kurokawa told daily *Al Anbaa* published today that the debts crisis is not a problem between debtor and creditor nations only, hence it needs international co-ordination, noting

that his government welcomes any global solutions.

Noting that Japan is very well acquainted on all international initiatives and co-operation in this respect, including proposals by the financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, he said that there is co-ordination between the United States and Europe to find a solution for the debts crisis.

Regarding stability in oil prices, the ambassador said that Japan as a main consumer of oil supports stability of oil prices and constantly monitors OPEC's agreements in this regard.

However, he added that price stability and oil production is of interest to the OPEC's member states in the first place.

On Kuwaiti-Japanese relations, the Japanese envoy said that his country's political relations with Kuwait are positive and economic co-operation bet-

ween the two countries is very good.

He underlined that 25 per cent of Kuwait's imports come from Japan, noting that Kuwait provides about 14 per cent of Japan's oil needs.

There is also technical co-operation between Japan and Kuwait as Japan provides communications experts for work here and receives Kuwaiti experts on different specialisations.

"There are very good economic relations between Japan and the GCC member states," the ambassador said, as his country is among the very few having ambassadors posted in all GCC states and maintains special relations with those countries.

Regarding the Lebanese crisis, Kurokawa said that his country supports the six-man committee assigned by the Arab League to look into the Lebanese problem and said that Japan is ready to participate in the reconstruction of post-war Lebanon.



Bangladesh lifestyles on display

Bangladesh artist Mounirul Islam's oil paintings went on show at the Kuwait National Museum on Friday. The exhibition was opened by Bangladesh Ambassador K.M. Shehabuddin. The exhibition features some aspects of life in Bangladesh. Islam, who dabbled in realistic art in the 1970s, has turned to modern art to express himself, inspired by the bountiful nature in

his country, and natural disasters, he looks inward to project the anguish of his people. A large number of diplomats and Kuwaiti officials attended the opening. The exhibition is held at the National Museum. The artist is Mounirul Islam. The exhibition is titled 'Bangladesh Lifestyles'. The artist is Mounirul Islam. The exhibition is titled 'Bangladesh Lifestyles'.

Begging now a profession

THE Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs' Undersecretary Mohammed Naser Al Hamdan has said that there are well-organised begging networks in the country, which operate around mosques and public places.

Members of these networks take advantage of the kind hearted people for hand-outs, which encourage them to carry on with their profession, Hamdan said.

He added that despite the existing charity organisations and social centres, beggars still went around beseeching people for handouts on the streets, or at mosques gates or go from door-to-door asking for money.

The director general of the

Zakat House Fuad Al Omar said that one man offered to give up begging in return for a regular KD450 per month from the house.

A photographer of a local daily who photographed beggars in Kuwait saw several women acting as beggars, clad in abiyas and accompanied by several children. They used the children in front of mosques to ask for help from worshippers. After they finished this performance they simply went towards an old suburb near the mosque, as if they were going to their homes but came out after some time without the children and without their abiyas got into a pick-up which was waiting for them and drove off.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

Information test results out

RESULTS have just been released of the 6th annual Arab Regional United Nations Information Test held in January 1989 and conducted by United School International Arab Regional Office in Bahrain.

A total of 5,106 students from 21 schools all over the Gulf registered for the test this year but only 4,281 students sat for it. Of these, 3,141 passed, securing 40 or more per cent marks. The percentage of success this year is 73.

The test was based on two books prepared by Jijia Lal Jain: ABC of the UN and UN Primer. While the former was intended for participants in the junior and sub-junior UN Information Test, the latter served as a source book for senior and pre-senior groups. Both the books have run into several impressions and are regularly updated.

The test is divided into four categories: subjunior for students of standards four and five; junior for students of standards six and seven; pre-senior for students of standards eight, nine and ten; senior for students of standards eleven and twelve.

Most of the top place winners in all the four categories have come from the Indian High School, Dubai (12 out of a total of 23 top place winners). Other winners have come from schools in Kuwait, Sharjah, Doha, Al Ain, Abu Dhabi and Bahrain.

The test was first organised in the Gulf in 1984 and the number of students who sat for it increased from 1,752 in the inaugural year to 4,281 in 1989. The most impressive results were achieved in 1987 when the percentage of success was 91.

The USI Arab Regional Office is also holding the 6th Annual Arab Regional Painting and Essay competitions on environment from 16-25th May. These competitions will mark the 17th anniversary of the Stockholm Conference on Environment and UNEP.

The West Asia Regional Office of the United Nations Environment Programme is collaborating with USI in organising these competitions.

The painting competition is divided into two categories: junior (Stds VI-VII) and subjunior (Stds IV-V). The essay competition is divided into pre-senior (Stds VIII-IX) and senior (Stds X-XII). The topics selected for painting this year are: a) water is the source of life, b) healthy mind and healthy body and c) save our seas. The essay topics are: a) hazardous waste, b) ozone layer depletion, c) conservation of nature, d) save our seas, e) technology and environment.

A panel of judges will evaluate the paintings and essays and top winners will be given awards. All those who secure 40 per cent marks and above will win certificates.

Expatriates to be replaced

AS part of Bahraini government's five-year Bahrainisation plan about four hundred firms are being urged to employ more Bahraini workers.

Under the plan, announced by the minister on May Day, 20,000 expatriate workers will be replaced by Bahrainis in the private sector by July 1994.

Local staff will be recruited in thirteen occupations comprising of senior administrators to hotel and restaurant employees.

Companies failing to comply with the new regulation will be penalised.

Private sector investment encouraged

Agriculture needs more finance

THE director of the botanic wealth department of the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fisheries, Jasssem Al Bader, has recommended increasing the maximum loan exempted from interest given to farmers from KD20,000 to KD50,000.

He also called to increase the value of the loan from 60 per cent to 80 per cent of value of the farm and its utilities.

Bader stressed the importance of the participation of the private sector especially banks and companies, in financing the agricultural projects. He added that investment in agriculture is expensive and gives a low percentage of profits which makes individuals reluctant to risk their savings.

He suggested establishing specialised establishments for marketing agricultural products whether through the agricultural co-operative societies or the specialised agricultural companies.

Al Bader pointed out that the authority is establishing nurseries in the Wafra and Abdali areas beside its nurseries in Omariya, Sabahiya, Doha and Keifan to meet demands of citizens who need seedlings and plants.

Seedlings
Al Bader pointed out that the authority is supporting the agricultural laboratory in order to increase the production of seedlings with special concern to fruit bearing palm trees.

He added that there are 128,038 non-fruit bearing palm trees here and the total local consumption of dates is 12,500 tons a

year. The local production of dates reach 35,000 tons a year so about 9,000 tons are imported from other countries. He added that a palm tree produces about 40 kilos of dates a year.

Al Bader pointed out that demand for trees and the decorative plants will increase which requires giving more concern to the establishment of government nurseries in Wafra and Abdali and to encourage the private sector by establishing private nurseries.

He added that the authority's plan aiming at planting 150,000 palm trees during the coming five years whether in the farms or private residences.

He added that coming five-year plan 89-1994 aims at achieving an advanced step to achieve self-sufficiency in agricultural products and fresh vegetables by increasing the percentage of the local production from 19.5 per cent of local consumption to 40 per cent of the consumption on the basis that individual consumption is 180 kilos a year.

Exports
He added that irrigation water used in agriculture in Kuwait is rain water, brackish water, distilled water, underground water and the sewage treated water as well as the future source of water that is from Shatt Al Arab of Iraq. He said that underground reserved water is estimated at 77 million gallons in different areas of Kuwait.

Meanwhile the managing director of Agricultural Foodstuffs Products Company Khaled Al Rashed has said that

local agriculture has widely diversified its products during this year. He added that exports of local agricultural products also increased. Kuwait exported more than 119 tons of vegetables to a number of Arab countries and some foreign countries such as Lebanon, the GCC states, France and West Germany.

He added that 97 per cent of these exports were cucumbers noting that local farms produced 236 tons of vegetables during this season. 85.6 per cent of them were cucumbers, 13.6 per cent were tomatoes beside green and red peppers and strawberries.

He added that local production of tomatoes during the present season reduced sharply compared to the previous season. But the statistics showed a sharp increase in the production of cucumbers and other kinds of vegetables because farmers planted these vegetables after damage of their seedlings of tomato. The company marketed more than 510 tons of potatoes, green and red peppers, egg plant and zucchini this season compared to 247.5 tons last season.

He added that the ideal marketing policy for local vegetables is based on balancing the needs of the local market especially tomatoes and cucumbers by exporting the surplus quantities and to import substitutes when the local production is not available. He added that companies imported about 35 tons of tomato from India recently after the disappearance of Kuwaiti tomatoes and tomatoes produced by the Mediterranean countries, he said.

Standard of Haj convoys very high

MOHAMMED Naser Al Hamdan, undersecretary at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has praised the level of Kuwaiti pilgrimage convoys, and added that efforts are being extended to enhance these services.

Speaking to 53 owners of the pilgrimage convoys at a meeting held yesterday, Hamdan said that for the first time, the Ministry of the Interior will prepare computerised statements containing the names of pilgrims who will leave Kuwait. The meeting aimed at discussing problems of caravan owners. A total of 63 convoys will leave Kuwait this year, he added.

Regulations

The official stressed the necessity of applying the regulations governing the inspection of buildings rented to pilgrims in Saudi Arabia. He also called on convoy owners to inform the ministry of any person booked in the convoy failing to perform the pilgrimage.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Medical Committee called on owners of convoys to abide by camping procedures at Mina area. Authorities may confiscate the tents of violators, he added.

Issa Al Kandari, representative of Kuwait Municipality called on owners to preserve the cleanliness of their residential sites during the pilgrimage season and to abide by post guides.

Teachers to issue violation tickets

Cleaning services to be improved

THE Director of the Cleanliness Department at Kuwait Municipality Issa Al Kandari has said that the municipality intends to give teachers the right to issue tickets to violators of the cleanliness law, within the framework of efforts to expand the application of this law.

He told a local daily that the municipality is planning to renew the contracts of cleaning contractors by the end of this year, and that sufficient cleaning services will be secured for all areas in Kuwait.

He said that garbage and waste material could be utilised by the Industrial Investment Company and converted into organic fertil-

isers to improve farming lands. Scrap and junk material could be used by a company to be set up especially for this purpose.

The only method presently available to dispose of waste material and garbage is through burial. Such land could only be used as parks and public gardens. The material buried is considered a good source of energy and could be treated and recycled into useful products.

This method is costly since it requires manpower, heavy-duty equipment, while at the same time affecting the environment and contaminating underground water, if any, Kandari said.

He said that the setting up of a special plant

for organic fertilisers would put an end to this problem, and produce material that could be used for improving arable lands.

The municipality had re-structured the clauses of the cleaning contracts to include more punitive measures for miscarriage of obligations.

The municipality's aim is to upgrade the level of cleaning services through the employment of specialised companies in a cost-effective manner, create local companies well-versed in the provision of such services, activate the local market through the participation of the private sector, and reduce administrative problems relating to manpower and equipment, Kandari elucidated.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THERE is no education like adversity — Benjamin Disraeli, English statesman (1804-1881).

OPINION

Brotherly visit

HIS Majesty, the Sultan of Oman, Sultan Qaboos Bin Saied, will arrive in Kuwait today as a great guest of his brother HH the Amir.

Needless to say that the Omani leader will be in his second country, as the relations between Kuwait and Oman are more than cordial. But it is important to say here that Sultan Qaboos' visit to Kuwait is a clear indication of the effectiveness of the GCC and the big role the council is now playing in linking its member states, bringing them closer and providing all means for their prosperity.

Sultan Qaboos himself did not begin his foreign diplomatic trips prior to completing his duties in building his country, and after ensuring a comprehensive infrastructure, thus providing many opportunities for his citizens.

If the visit of Sultan Qaboos to Kuwait is an indication of the completion of the country's development programmes, it also signals the beginning of building Omani foreign policy. This foreign policy is now obviously based upon a strong Omani internal front.

Sultan Qaboos is well-known for his adoption to programmed phases. Whenever urgent external conditions arose, he has dealt with it through his commitment of those programmes. He does not prefer to mix the stages and so he also does not mix between priorities. In this aspect, he has acted with foresight and pragmatism, and has gained credibility through Oman's prominence in the Gulf, Arab and international arenas.

Oman is now a capable country on equal footing with others. This is a pre-condition for Sultan Qaboos establishing any form of co-operation between Oman and other countries, near or far.

Based upon this, the visit thus involves all these meanings and adds a new dimension which Oman has begun, dealing with the principles of the GCC and implementing them on the same level accorded to national construction principles.

The visit reaffirms the links between the GCC states and signals the start of an open-door policy. This conviction is strengthened by the slow but steady steps of Sultan Qaboos and it has now been proved to be correct.

Thus, as Sultan Qaboos begins his duties in building a strong foreign policy for his country, it is time for more measures linking the interests of the Gulf states. Sultan Qaboos has always called for such links and for providing the right atmosphere.

The timing of the visit is certainly more than opportune according to the Sultan's calculations, particularly when it is considered as a new Omani emergence in the Gulf.

It comes at a time when the Arab leaders are holding one of the most important summits in their history. The summit is intended to tackle the many challenges facing the Arab nation.

This is a time for co-operation. There is no scope for differences. It is a time for peaceful settlements and not for disputes and in-fighting. It is a time of understanding and not of wars.

We expect Sultan Qaboos to be the leader who totally believes in this, but even more to be one of its makers and propagators.

Welcome to our country which is also your home. We wish every success to the ship of the Gulf co-operation, which starts towards new and glorious horizons in the interests of the people.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

PRESS REVIEW

New approach needed

KUWAIT, (KUNA): A Kuwaiti newspaper has urged the Arab leaders to adopt new methods and fresh strategies in handling chronic Arab crises for which several summits have been held but in vain.

Editorially commenting on the forthcoming Arab extraordinary summit in Morocco, Al Rai Al Aam daily said Arab leaders should transcend obsolete political action of the sixties and seventies and handle new Arab developments through new vision of world changes.

The paper expressed a sort of understanding for the declared stance of Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi that he would boycott the upcoming summit as such an attitude would draw attention to "some cracks in the Arab wall."

Al Rai Al Aam, in conclusion, said if traditional summit atmosphere would continue to characterise the next Arab meeting, it would be more fruitful to declare postponement of the summit.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1509 — French defeat Venetians at Agnadello and become masters of north Italy; Spanish troops seize Oran from Moors.
- 1610 — Franco Ravallac, a fanatic, assassinates France's King Henry IV who is succeeded by Louis XIII, age 9, with Maria de Medici, the queen mother, as regent.
- 1702 — Sweden's King Charles XII takes Warsaw.
- 1791 — British under Lord Cornwallis overthrow Tipu Sultan of Mysore at Seringapatam in India.
- 1897 — Britain, by treaty with Ethiopia, abandons certain claims in Somaliland but Emperor Menelik refuses to surrender claims to land near the Nile.
- 1921 — Fascists gain in Italian elections.
- 1948 — British mandate in Palestine ends, and an independent state of Israel is formed with Chaim Weizmann as president and David Ben-Gurion as premier; Arab legion of Transjordan takes Palestine and enters Occupied Jerusalem.
- 1964 — Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev opens Aswan Dam in Egypt.
- 1972 — Okinawa reverts to Japan after 27 years under US jurisdiction.
- 1975 — United States announces that Marines have recaptured by force the US merchant ship Mayaguez which had been seized by Cambodians, and that US planes destroyed three Cambodian naval vessels.
- 1977 — Soviet newspaper Pravda warns West that any aid to China eventually will be used to start world conflict.
- 1987 — Armed troops storm Fiji parliament, declaring military government after kidnapping prime minister and his cabinet in south Pacific's first coup.
- 1988 — Iraqi warplanes attack and set ablaze five ships at offshore oil-loading terminal that belongs to Iran.

Gorbachev's policies make an impression

West Germans take an independent line in NATO

By Richard C. Hottelet

IN the dark fall of 1950, two things occurred in West Germany that bear even now on the integrity of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The Korean war was going against the United States/United Nations forces with massive Chinese intervention. Many feared that Korea was only the first blow, to be followed by a Soviet attack in Europe. With that in mind, hustlers in Lower Saxony along the border with communist East Germany hawked picture postcards of Josef Stalin, ensuring the holders good treatment from an advancing Soviet army.

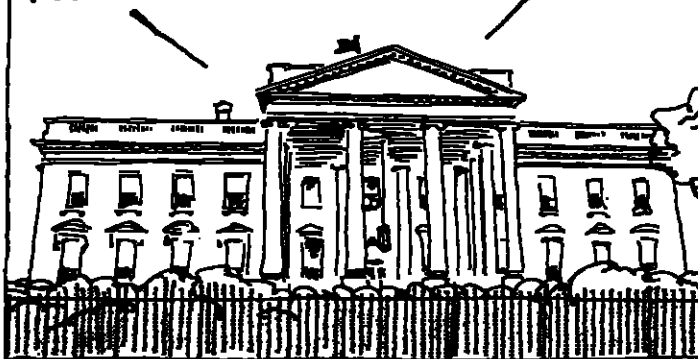
In Frankfurt, US High Commissioner John J. McCloy briefed Chancellor Konrad Adenauer on the gloomy picture in Korea. Should the blow fall in Europe, the US offered the Chancellor full protection including, if necessary, removal to a safer place. Adenauer thanked McCloy but would not consider evacuation. Why not? Because, Adenauer replied, the important thing is not that the US is now in trouble but that it is fighting.

For most of its 40 years, NATO has been animated by those sentiments: recognition of real menace from the East and confidence that the US would stand with its allies to meet it. Fortunately for the West, this has been the consistent mood in the Federal Republic of Germany, the strategic hub of the alliance. Charles DeGaulle's France could pivotate out of NATO's military structure and cause its allies only great expense and aggravation. Bonn's doing that would have brought and would still bring NATO crashing down.

The largest contingent of troops in the allied command in Europe is German. However, for the first time in modern history, there is today no German, let alone Prussian, army. All of West Germany's armed forces — air, ground, and naval — are, alone among the allies, entirely under NATO command. Much hinges on the spirit the German

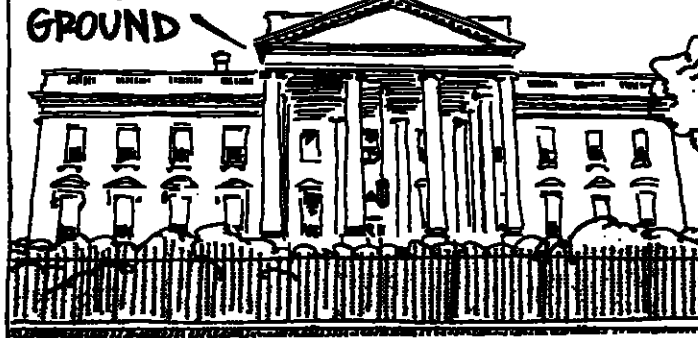
SIR - THE GERMANS ARE OFF THE RESERVATION

REALLY?



YES, SIR - THEY'RE BALKING AT BEING USED AS A RADIO-ACTIVE BATTLEGROUND

THEY'VE GONE PEACENIK ON US!



people bring to the partnership. Of late, the hinge has been creaky.

Many Germans no longer see the Soviet Union as the monster it was for so long. The brutal aspects of Stalin's policy, the Berlin blockade, successive crises and then the Wall, the zone of death between the two German states; Soviet tanks stifling uprisings in East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary — all this has receded.

Then, Western Europe was preserved mainly by American strength and generosity as expressed in the Marshall Plan

and in the US's first foreign alliance, NATO. Now, Mikhail Gorbachev promises an end to crisis through reduction of offensive forces. His glasnost and proffered vision of a "common European home" are immensely attractive.

Germans and others want to believe that this change is possible. They see hope in the USSR and in parts of Eastern Europe. They want prudently to explore and encourage it. Looking across the Atlantic, many wonder if the US is properly responsive to their concerns. Germans want to seize a perceived opportunity to

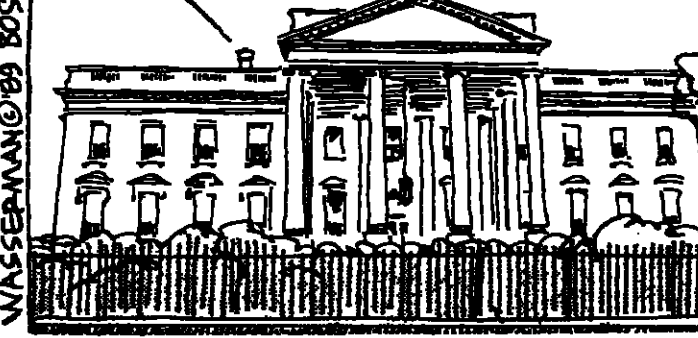
YES, SIR - THEY WANT TO NEGOTIATE SHORT-RANGE NUKES WITH GORBACHEV

LOST THEIR NERVE, HUH?



YES, SIR - THEY'RE NATO'S DRAFT DODGER

EASY, DAN - THAT WASN'T AIMED AT YOU



negotiate reduction of forces (some 1.6 million active troops are on station in the two German states alone) and the danger that their territory could become the nuclear battleground.

As the compelling sense of danger diminishes, classic fears easily awaken. General De Gaulle long ago questioned whether the US would really risk devastation in a strategic nuclear exchange to defend Europe. Henry Kissinger confessed in the 1970s that Mutual Assured Destruction (MAD) was simply not credible as a deterrent. When Ronald Reagan at Reykjavik

spontaneously joined Gorbachev in the civilized common-place that the world would be better without any nuclear weapons, he plunged Europe into panic. Until a foolproof military balance is found, Europe's security rests on short-range and battlefield nuclear weapons.

There has always been some fear that West Germany could break away, dragging its partners into a war for national reunification — or selling out to the Soviets to that end. German-Russian collaboration has rich historical precedent. France has

contrarily, nursed an old suspicion of German power, preferring Germany divided and therefore weaker even as it relies on its neighbour to be a bulwark against aggression from the East. In the US, struggling with its deficit, the allies are criticized more frequently for not fairly sharing the burden of defense and being too quick to respond to Gorbachev's appeals. Congress may, before long, cut US troop strength in Europe.

The allies respond tartly. The Americans are there, after all, not only for Europe's sake but also for their own. The Germans point out that the burden is measured in more than money. They are extending compulsory military service from 15 to 18 months to compensate for a lower birth rate. West Germany, about the area of Oregon but only 150 miles wide, is NATO's forward defense area. The 900,000 soldiers in place there cannot help being a terrible nuisance. Said one Western commander: "People don't like tanks in their garden and low-flying aircraft." Yet damage and disturbance necessarily accompany 5,000 field exercises a year. Airplanes fly nearly 600,000 sorties annually. When they train to penetrate Soviet radar, they fly at 250 feet and at top speed.

The cost of defense is more easily borne when the need is clear. Now, rising doubt eats away at the cement which has held NATO together for 40 years. A new threat cannot be contrived. Now is the time for the members to take stock of their joint enterprise. It has been incredibly successful, allowing Western Europe to flourish in freedom. The practice of consultation and harmonizing interests is too precious to discard. The Atlantic community faces many problems — still, including security. They will be political, economic, psychological.

Unity of purpose is needed as before. But the partnership must find terms for thought and action that better meet new, less-melodramatic, albeit equally challenging demands as it meets the emergency of 1949. 1989, The Christian Science Monitor Publishing Society.

Israeli lobby in US Congress behind offensive against PLO

By Raphael Calle

WHILE the diplomatic battle over the PLO's application for statehood status is being played in Geneva, the preparation for the real war ahead on this issue is actually being drawn up, as usual, in the Congress of the United States in this federal capital.

It is within the lobbying corridors of the American legislative body that the battle and contingency plans are being drawn, the gun muzzles are being cleaned, the final targets are being identified, and, of course, the real intentions are being unravelled.

And, as usual, the key players are a small group of Congressmen more well-known by now for their blind loyalty to Israel than for the real interests of their own country, the United States.

This is the group that is currently directing the blind and vicious offensive aimed at depriving the Palestinian from getting state representation for the PLO at such United Nations specialised agencies like WHO, UNESCO, and many others.

They are the same actors who have in the past forced the closure of the PLO information office in Washington, urged the granting of a visa to the PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, increased economic and military aid levels to Israel, and prevented arms sales to the moderate Arab states.

Despite their claims to the contrary, at issue for them is neither US leadership in the international arena, the effectiveness of the specialised agencies of the United Nations, or international law.

Their key objective, as became evident during hearings held on Capitol Hill this week, is to prevent the legitimisation of the concept of statehood for the Palestinians.

And, as an indirect consequence of this battle, they are actually seeking to halt the stalemated dialogue between the United States and the PLO launched in Tunis last December — a dialogue that Israel has sought to stop from the day of its inception. Several attempts to force such a halt in recent months have failed. Hence the latest PLO gambit provides a golden opportunity to press ahead towards this objective.

It is this small group of pro-Israeli Congressmen, led by such representatives as Tom Lantos, Howard Berman and Mel Levine of California and Olympia Snowe of Maine, among others, who this week spearheaded a house resolution calling for the cutting of all funds to specialised United Nations agencies that grant the Palestinians statehood status.

They were the same group who last week sent a letter to Secretary of State James Baker that prompted him to adopt his tough stand and to issue a strong statement warning that the US will halt all funds to WHO and other groups that admit the PLO as a state.

The Congressmen's resolution states, "the US will prohibit contribution to the United Nations or any of its affiliated organisations for full membership, as the state is granted, to any organisation or group that does not have the international recognised attributes of statehood."

But the real intention of this pro-Israeli group of Congressmen became clearly evident at the hearing of the international operations subcommittee of the House

Foreign Affairs Committee, where the resolution was being processed on its way to the full house for debate and approval.

Among the arguments that surfaced by these legislators in favour of the resolution were the following:

- The PLO's admission would cause grave harm to both the Middle East peace process and to the UN system (Tom Lantos).
- Political questions such as this one should not be raised in specialised agencies, "because such politicisation detracts from the important technical work of these organisations."
- International law clearly requires that in order for an entity to be considered a nation, it must exercise effective governmental control over the population and territory it claims as its own. "The PLO has neither an effective government nor control over territories and populations it claims," (Benjamin Gilman).
- The PLO effort is a throwback to the confrontational politics which characterised the UN in the 1970s when the non-aligned countries tried to dominate the UN agenda. (Edward Luck, president of the UN Association of the USA).
- Any resolution of the conflict in Geneva should not have some backdoor clauses that will allow the PLO to achieve its objectives some other way.
- The PLO opted to seek state membership in WHO and other agencies because the US has no veto power like at the Security Council.

At the WHO assembly, for example, and in accordance with its constitution, issues are settled on a 50-50 majority vote while other agencies require a two thirds majority vote. Still some other agencies allow states that are already members of other UN agencies to automatically be a member of theirs. Such is the case in UNIDO, among others.

While these and other arguments by both Congressmen and representatives of the US government were being summed up by Shaw Smith, the deputy assistant secretary of state for UN Political Affairs at the State Department, when he stated in unequivocal terms:

"The United States is very strongly opposed to any action by WHO that would legitimise the statehood claims for Palestine."

So in essence, the battle is sparked off by the Bush administration's often-declared assertion — one obviously backed by Congress — that it is opposed to any moves or any negotiations that will result in the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The PLO move at the UN specialised agencies will obviously be viewed by Washington as one such step in this direction and the administration is determined to stop it no matter what the price.

One idea that was floated around Congress during this week's debate that would allow the US to gain more time and avert an immediate confrontation by referring the whole question of the "legitimacy of the PLO application" to the International Court of Justice at the Hague — a process that might take at least a year and hence postpone the immediate bottleneck at WHO and UNESCO.

But the pro-Israeli Congressmen immediately shot down the idea, with one representative noting that "this is a fuzzy area of international law" and admitting that "there are legitimate contrary viewpoints."

When pushed further, another Congress-

man noted that the outcome of the World Court's decision will not offer a guarantee that the application of the PLO would be rejected.

And the real reason, this Congressman pointed out, is that the membership of the World Court as it stands at present is made up of six judges from OECD countries, two from the socialist bloc, and seven from the developing countries. Hence, the outcome might very well be a "close decision."

"The court's decision might end up being based not on evidence of well-established rules of international law, but based on ideology, political sympathies, and foreign policy interests. It is never going to be 100 per cent legal or 100 political," the Congressman argued.

So on the one hand, these legislators come out to defend international law and its application at the World Health Organization yet they are quick to reject the dictates of international law when it comes out of jurists at the World Court of Justice in the Hague.

This week's debate on the US Congress also revealed some of the measures that might be taken — and are being seriously studied — should the PLO be admitted to the specialised agencies of the United Nations despite the US battle against it.

These can be briefly summed up in the following:

- First, to threaten to suspend the US bilateral dialogue with the PLO launched last December in Tunis.

Congressman Tom Lantos made the pro-Israeli lobby's intention quite clear when he stated:

"Should this undesirable chain of events take place, there will be a resolution before this body calling for the cessation of the bilateral dialogue."

Second, to cut funding to those United Nations humanitarian agencies which provide assistance to the Palestinian people only — organisations like UNRWA.

The argument used is that "the self-proclaimed state of Palestine should take care of its own people." That would eliminate the need and the embarrassment for the US to halt funding to organisations like WHO that have world-wide and badly needed services.

Third, the US will withhold only "voluntary" rather than legally assessed contributions to the specialised agencies.

Fourth, the US will refuse to sit with the PLO in the WHO assembly, thereby suspending membership so long as the PLO is considered a member state while still providing substantial voluntary contributions to those WHO projects deemed most worthy and urgent.

And, fifth, to threaten all countries, especially those in the Third World, that receive American aid that these programmes will be cut off immediately if they vote in favour of the PLO admission.

It is ironic that the now familiar current carrot-and-stick approach by the United States towards the United Nations is being orchestrated at a time when the Bush administration has expressed its full support for the world body on numerous occasions in recent months. (KUNA)

Sino-Soviet border contacts booming

By Andrew Roche

HEIHE, China, (Reuters): For the people of this remote frontier city, Sino-Soviet detente means they can meet their neighbours after 25 years of staring suspiciously at them across the icy waters of the Amur River. In the 1960s and 70s this was one of the most tense borders in the world. Red Army tanks trained their guns at Chinese sentry posts and competing radio masts broadcast the rival gospels of Communism at those on the opposite bank.

Now four boats and cargo barges cross the divide almost daily, and residents of Heihe in northeastern China and the Soviet far east city of Blagoveshchensk tune in to each other's television soap operas.

In Beijing this week, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and China's senior leader Deng Xiaoping will take part in the first summit meeting between the two countries since 1959.

Here, the only casualty of the new friendship so far has been the unloved Soviet rouble.

Since Moscow and Peking approved barter trade across the river in 1987, the first deal of Chinese melons swapped for sacks of Soviet fertiliser has passed into local legend as the start of a new era.

Business is booming, carried by trucks over the frozen river during the bitter Siberian winter and boats in the summer — Chinese stereos, cameras, thermos flasks and padded jackets are exchanged for Soviet cement, timber and chemical fertiliser.

"Everybody is happy with the change. We need their raw materials and they need our consumer goods," said Heihe trade official Gou Fuliang. Total Sino-Soviet trade was valued at \$3.26 billion in 1988.

"The hostility between our two cities was because of international matters beyond our control. We all get on very well now. When we meet, no-one talks about politics."

More than 2,000 Russians and Chinese have gone on the first ever Sino-Soviet day-trip package tours, which began late in 1988. Tens of thousands more have signed up for this year.

For many Chinese visitors to Blagoveshchensk, it is their first chance in three decades to try out rusty Russian learned in the 1950s, during the 'period of friendship' when Soviet technicians poured into China under a massive aid programme.

Every Heihe resident seems to remember the Russian word for "comrade."

"Their city is impressive, the hygiene is very good and the buses are heated. In these respects the Soviets are more advanced than we are," said one middle-aged Heihe man.

Even from the Heihe waterfront, the contrast is visible. The dusty Chinese city is largely made up of dirt streets flanked by drab modern housing blocks or crumbling European-style terraces dating from the time when it was under Tsarist control.

It suffers regular cuts in electric power and running water, and many workers live in a virtual shantytown on its outskirts.

Even Heihe officials admit Blagoveshchensk has made a better job of city planning. But according to the Chinese, Soviet life has its drawbacks too.

"There is nothing to buy over there, and their food is terrible. But they're very friendly," said Li Shenkun, one of the hundreds of building workers sent across to work for about 700 yuan (\$200 US) a month on construction projects in Blagoveshchensk in the past year.

"We have surplus labour, and they need workers to open up the Soviet far east. It's a natural arrangement," said Gou.

It is not politics which stands in the way of faster growth in exchanges across the river, but transport bottlenecks and the difficulties of trading in two non-convertible currencies.

The Soviet Union has proposed a bridge over the amur (black dragon) river to speed up cross-border traffic, but Peking has so far turned the idea down, Heihe officials said.

No cash changes hands in the elaborate barter arrangements used for trading, but talks have been held over how much pocket money each side should provide the cross-border tour groups — and the rouble has taken a hammering.

Heihe demanded that the exchange rate reflects what the rouble and the Chinese yuan can buy each side of the border, and arrived at a rate of 1.5 yuan to the rouble — valuing the Soviet currency at less than one-quarter of its official worth. The Soviet side has pressed unsuccessfully for a rate of two to one.

The Soviet tours that pass through Heihe are taken to sights including a freshly-painted memorial to 'Red Army martyrs' who died during the Soviet liberation of northeastern China from Japan in 1945. They then go shopping, and avidly stock up on the instant coffee, crockery and clothes available in Heihe's shops.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

US wants South Korean currency to rise

WASHINGTON, May 13, (AP) Taiwan's dollar may be strong enough for now but President George Bush's administration will keep pressure on South Korea to increase the price of its currency, Assistant Treasury Secretary David C. Mulford told senators yesterday.

When the price of another country's currency goes up, its exports become more expensive and less attractive in the United States, while American goods become cheaper in that country and easier to sell. These developments tend to reduce the US deficit in world trade, which amounted to \$137 billion last year.

"In 1987, our bilateral trade deficit with the four most prominent newly industrialised economies reached nearly a quarter of our total trade deficit," Mulford said.

The other three of these "four tigers" are Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong.

Mulford complained that the pace of reducing US imports from them and increasing exports is very slow, partly due to the way they manipulate their exchange rates. The South Korean surplus fell in the first quarter of this year due to a rise in the value of the won, the country's currency, he said.

"Unfortunately, the response of the Korean authorities to these welcome developments has been to reduce sharply the pace of the won's appreciation this year," he added.

He said the United States will negotiate to get the South Koreans to promise "adequate continued won appreciation."

On Thursday, the won remained steady at 666.40 to the US dollar.

The Taiwan dollar was quoted at 3.945 US cents, up from 3.903 cents the day before.

Mulford said the Treasury will continue to watch the Taiwan rate and trade developments closely.

Iraq initiates campaign

Egypt readmitted to OAPEC

KUWAIT, May 13, (Agencies) Egypt was readmitted to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries today, Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah announced.

He declined to say whether the decision was unanimous, but conference sources said Libya cast a negative vote.

Egypt's membership was suspended when Cairo signed its 1979 peace treaty with Israel. OPAEC sources said shortly before the conference opened at the organisation's headquarters that Egypt's return was "a foregone conclusion."

Opening the conference, OPAEC chairman Mansour Saeed Otaiba, the United Arab Emirates' oil minister, called for restoring Egypt to the OPAEC fold.

"The Arab family will remain incomplete as long as Egypt remains outside," he declared.

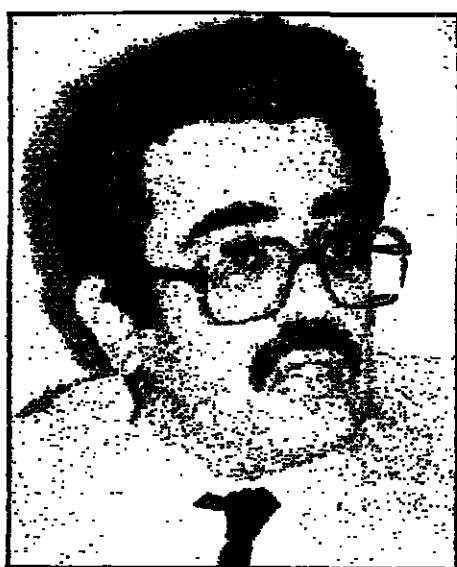
"Egypt is a mother, sister and daughter of the Arab nation... we hope this meeting will handle the question."

OPAEC sources said that the organisation's charter stipulates that two-thirds of the members, and two-thirds of the founders, should vote for the membership of any former member to be restored.

OPAEC was founded in 1968 by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Libya.

"It's certain that Saudi Arabia and Kuwait will vote 'yes' for Egypt's return," said one source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

With the exception of Bahrain, Syria, Tun-



Sheikh Ali

isia and Egypt, the other states are also members in the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

OPAEC helps Arab oil producing countries develop co-operation in downstream operations and align policies on production and pricing.

Egypt lost its place in all pan-Arab institutions after the Arab League suspended its membership in 1979.

But Egypt has been gradually moving back into the Arab fold, an effort that was given the green light by an Arab summit in 1987.

The final approval may come when an emergency Arab summit convenes May 23 in Casablanca, where host country Morocco and several other key Arab states are determined to have Egypt participate.

OPAEC acting secretary-general Abdul-Aziz Al Wattari told reporters after the meeting that Libya had not voted against Egypt's readmission, but had expressed reservations.

"We have invited Egypt to take the decision to return and have left the matter to the Egyptian authorities to determine the final date," Wattari said. "I will contact the Egyptian oil minister."

OPAEC, which also includes Algeria, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Syria and the United Arab Emirates, was formed in 1968 to promote joint energy projects.

Syrian Oil Minister Muzianis Habib said when he arrived in Kuwait on Thursday that Damascus had no objection to Egypt's reinstatement in OPAEC.

"I think that no Arab will oppose Egypt's return to Arab organisations because Egypt is a sister state and we hope the circumstances which caused its ostracisation have now been dispelled," he said.

Iraq initiated the campaign for Egypt's return to OPAEC.

Egypt, one of the major Arab military powers, supported Iraq during the 8-year war with Iran.

ASCA chief to chair executive committee meeting

THE executive committee of the Arab Society of Certified Accountants (ASCA) is scheduled to meet in Abu Dhabi on Monday under the chairmanship of its president Talal Abu Ghazaleh. The meeting will be held under the patronage of the president of the United Arab Emirates University Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan.

The meeting will deliberate on procedural matters relating to ASCA's annual plan for the current year, amongst which are the final arrangements for the qualifying exams for the title of "Arab Certified Accountant".

The first part of these exams will be held next November in a number of Arab capitals.

The executive committee will also review the report of the membership committee in the light of numerous applications by accountants sitting for Part One of the examinations.

The executive committee will also review the report of the curriculum committee which is almost through issuing the Arabic translation of the study material the copyright of which was obtained from the "Financial Training".

The translation was made under the supervision of accounting professors drawn from Arab universities. The study material is based on translation of text books by Financial Training used in the British qualifying exams plus a number of courses on Arab laws and on taxation.

The venues of examinations will be determined taking into consideration the domicile of the students. Recommendations in this regard will be passed to the Examination Supervisory Board headed by Robert May, the former president of the International Federation of Accountants.

The supervisory board also includes John Kirkpatrick, former chairman of the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) and professor John Small, former President of the International Federation of Accountants Education Committee as well as Dr Khalid Kurdi and Messrs. Antoine Mattar and Fouad Aladdin, ASCA board members.

The executive committee will be formulating an integrated plan to ensure that the qualifying examinations shall match the highest of standards in developed countries of the world, all in the good cause of upholding the prestige and role of the Arab accounting profession in Arab development endeavours.

Pakistan to buy oil from Iran

KARACHI, May 13, (Reuters) Pakistan will buy 20,000 barrels of oil daily at concessional rates for one year from Iran, Pakistan's Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Jahangir Badar said yesterday.

Badar was speaking to reporters on his return from Tehran at Karachi airport. The official APP news agency quoted him as saying Iran would supply oil at special rates under a barter trade agreement but did not elaborate.

Business leaders see slower growth

Council expresses general optimism

HOT SPRINGS, Virginia, May 13, (AP) The nation's top business leaders yesterday predicted that economic growth this year will taper off from an already slackening pace, but they nonetheless radiated confidence that a recession can be avoided.

In its semi-annual forecast, the Business Council predicted that growth, as measured by the gross national product, will fall to 2.9 per cent this year and to 1.7 per cent in 1990.

Although that would represent a significant slowdown from the healthy 3.9 per cent pace posted last year, the council expressed "general optimism" that no economic downturn is likely in the next two years.

The council, made up of executives of 65 of the nation's largest corporations, said the anticipated slower-growth trend for the near future comes largely from an expectation that exports and business investment will contribute less to the economy this year than in 1988.

The panel's economists also expressed concern about worsening inflation extending into 1990, with some corporate analysts expecting price increases to advance at an annual pace exceeding six per cent.

Inflation worries have heightened this year as several sharp monthly advances in the consumer price index combined to pace a 6.1 per cent annual inflation rate during the first quarter.

The council's consensus call is for a five per cent rise in consumer prices in both 1989 and 1990, up from 4.4 per cent in the past two years.

"The central view is that although the flare-up prices early in 1989 was an aberration, price behaviour overall will not improve appreciably until mid-1990," the report cautioned.

It said future price increases would be held down somewhat by a falloff in oil prices, which were a big part of the first-quarter surge in inflation.

The council's report, based on the judgement of 19 corporate economists, said a minority of the analysts remain concerned about "the lagging effects of inflation and believes that there will be echoes from both the earlier period of strong economic growth and the oil episode for some after growth decelerates."

That is the recipe for so-called stagflation, a period when prices continue to rise even as the economy loses steam.

The Federal Reserve Board, concerned about the nation's disturbing inflation numbers, has been pushing up interest rates for the past year in an effort to ease inflationary pressures by restraining economic growth.

It is the Federal Reserve's anti-inflation campaign that has a growing number of private analysts worried the Central Bank may unintentionally push the nation into a recession as it tries to hold the economy to a more sustainable level of growth.

But the business council's judgement was that the further tightening is unlikely, contributing to expectations of a long life for the current economic expansion, which already has achieved a peacetime record at more than six years.

Libya will opt for higher oil prices: minister

KUWAIT, May 13, (AP) Libyan Oil Minister Fawzi Shakshouki said today his country does not favour an increase in the daily output ceiling of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries which currently stands at 18.5 million barrels a day.

He told reporters on the fringes of the semi-annual meeting of OPAEC, that his country "will opt for higher oil prices rather than a higher production ceiling."

The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries groups 11 Arab oil-producing states. Seven of them also are OPAEC members.

OPAEC helps Arab oil producing countries develop co-operation in downstream

operations and align policies on production and pricing.

OPAEC is preparing for its own semi-annual session early June in Vienna where improving market prices have revived demands by some OPAEC members, notably the UAE and Kuwait, for higher production quotas.

Oil prices have lately surpassed the benchmark price of \$18 per barrel, because its members have restricted their production to the OPAEC-set ceiling.

Shakshouki referred to a recent prediction by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia prices could increase to \$26 a barrel price by the beginning of the new year.

"If the predictions of King Fahd materialise, then we will support raising the ceiling," said Shakshouki.

UAE Oil Minister Mansour Saeed Otaiba, in his opening address to the Arab oil ministers meeting that he is chairing, made no reference to this production issue but said the market should be stabilised further.

"OPAEC has surmounted its strangling crisis and we hope that we have passed the stage of price collapse and price war of 1986," said Otaiba. "The oil market is recovering. OPAEC has left the intensive care unit but is still at the hospital. We hope it will leave the hospital before the end of the year."

Kuwait to seek higher OPEC quota

KPC team to visit Moscow

By J. J. Porter Arab Times staff

KUWAIT will insist, at the ministerial OPEC meeting in June, on a 300,000 barrel per day increase of its quota because of the "sacrifices" it made over the years to prop up the OPEC price levels, according to Abdullah Al Roumi of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation.

Recalling Kuwait's consistently maintained low output, which at one time went down to as little as 650,000 barrels per day (BPD), to protect the OPEC prices, he said: "While others talked, we acted."

"What we now ask for is a modest-sized increase considering Kuwait's output before the oil glut in 1982 and its reserves," Al Roumi, a KPC executive assistant general manager, told the Arab Times.

He also expressed Kuwait's resolve to continue co-operation in the oil sector with the Soviet Union, which he admitted is in part politically motivated, and to pursue the challenge of cracking the Asian oil product markets which, with the exception of

Thailand, remain closed. "We are closely watching the developments in the Asian states with an eye on opportunities to enter their product distribution network," Al Roumi stressed.

He also said he expected the OPEC states to exceed their quotas if oil prices continue to rise.

"When prices go up everyone is overproducing," he said. And, casting doubts on OPEC's effectiveness at times other than crises, he added: "You need OPEC when the market is down."

increase

But he hastened to add that this does not mean that any increase in total ceiling will be proportionally spread among all OPEC states. Some countries, such as Algeria and Nigeria, are

already producing near their maximum capacity, he pointed out.

He declined to reveal Kuwait's current production. The Gulf state, which boasts crude reserves of 98.10 billion barrels, has a production capacity of 5 million BPD. But even in the days of the oil boom its output never exceeded 3.9 million BPD with the highest annual production of 3.3 million in 1972.

Al Roumi, who is in charge of marketing for the Eastern hemisphere, said that Kuwait will maintain co-operation with the Soviet Union because it is a superpower and it has oil industry expertise.

Kuwait recently cut the number of three Soviet vessels it chartered in 1987 to two but is considering stepping up co-operation in other areas such as joint oil exploration, both in Kuwait and the Soviet Union.

A KPC delegation is preparing to leave for Moscow to examine the oil fields there.

Kuwait recently broke into the Asian market when it signed a deal with Thailand last March to explore for oil, develop a net-

work of service stations, and supply oil products in aviation. In Thailand, which has a limited refining capacity, the emirate's Q 8 petrol station network will be fed by products from refineries in Kuwait which have a capacity of 700,000 BPD.

Markets

Kuwait is also pushing hard to gain entry into Japan. "Japan has signalled that it might open its markets to foreign gasoline distributors. When it does, we'll be there. We can wait," Al Roumi said.

But the move into Asia will be difficult because of protectionism and a high level of investment required.

"To move into some Asian states we would have to build the whole system, from the receiving facilities to distribution. This would reduce our competitiveness," explained Al Roumi. Comparing European and Asian markets Al Roumi said that although Kuwait had to "fight for survival in Europe," that market was easier to deal with because of the high standard of development, and stability there.

Convention position

Singapore voted top

SINGAPORE, May 13, (KUNA) Singapore has been voted the top convention destination in Asia for the sixth consecutive year.

The annual study was carried out by the Brussels-based Union des Associations Internationales (UAI), an association founded in 1907 which grades all countries and cities hosting international and region meetings.

The statistics are based on information collected by the UAI congress department.

Last year, a total of 1,933 events involving 300,000 overseas participants were held in Singapore. This was a 24 per cent increase over the previous year.

The Singapore Tourist Promotion Board (STPB) attributed the island republic's top convention position to its geographical position, infrastructure and its trade and local associations.

Kuwait trade volume surges as value dips, says study

THE Alshall Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 38.75 points with approximately no change over last week's average. The Alshall Index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies maintained the same level of last week at 67.50 points, according to Alshall weekly market review.

The trading volume (two days trading only) for Kuwaiti shares reached 15.92 million shares at a daily average of 7.96 million shares with an increase of 39 per cent over the previous week's daily average of 5.73 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 1.98 million shares at a daily average of 0.99 million shares with an increase of 36 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.73 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD 3.69 million at a daily average of KD 1.85 million, a decrease of 20 per cent from last week's daily average of KD 2.31 million.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD 0.106 million at a daily average of KD 0.053 million, an increase of 43 per cent over last week's daily average of KD 0.037 million.

The two days of trading that came after the Eid holiday cannot be compared to the normal performance of the market, yet signs of weakness in the performance of the market were reflected.

It seems that the parallel market which will include companies that cannot meet the official market's criteria and are not doing well in it and companies that are small but are achieving high levels of profit will be established soon.

"We believe that this decision is a right one, however the new parallel market should not list companies that are not achieving profits in the official market as this may affect the general credibility of the market and a new crisis similar to that of the old parallel market could occur. The implementations of the new proposed investment funds together with the new parallel market will increase trading volume of both Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti markets, but the concentration of trading will be on the best performing companies only. This will lead to a gradual decrease in trading of certain companies' shares which in the long run will affect the better the general performance of all listed companies."

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the investment sector came first at 38 per cent, of which Kuwait Investment Projects had the lead at 53 per cent followed by Kuwait Pearl Investment at 30 per cent and

National Investments at 17 per cent. Second came the services sector at 31 per cent, followed by Public Warehousing at 37 per cent and Kuwait Commercial Markets at 17 per cent.

The banking sector came third at 22 per cent of total trading of which the National Bank of Kuwait had the lead at 32 per cent, followed by Kuwait Finance House at 20 per cent and Gulf Bank at 18 per cent.

For the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain and Middle East Bank led at 25 per cent followed by Coast Investment and Development Company at 24 per cent and Bahrain International Bank at 22 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies index			
	Wednesday 10/05/89	Wednesday 03/05/89	Change points
Banking Sector			
The National Bank	112.35	112.35	—
The Gulf Bank	33.25	33.25	—
The Commercial Bank	24.59	25.03	-0.44
Al Ahli Bank	33.30	33.81	-0.50
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	30.97	31.44	-0.47
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	29.14	29.14	—
Burgan Bank	28.74	29.24	-0.50
Kuwait Finance House	79.92	79.92	—
Service Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	17.45	17.45	—
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	12.03	12.03	—
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	69.84	67.46	2.38
IFA	31.62	31.62	—
Commercial Facilities	115.50	115.50	—
National Investments	64.71	63.73	0.98
Kuwait Investment Proj.	94.38	91.01	3.37
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	35.28	35.28	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	27.69	27.69	—
Al Ahleia Insurance Co.	47.74	47.74	—
Warba Insurance Co.	58.42	58.42	—
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	17.08	15.80	1.27
United Realty	6.25	6.25	—
National Real Estate	35.83	35.83	—
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	11.59	11.59	—
Refrigeration Indust.	83.45	83.45	—
Gulf Cables	110.87	110.87	—
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	78.22	78.22	—
Food Sector			
Kuwait Food Co.	30.48	30.48	—
Service Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	162.00	162.00	—
Kuwait Chemia Co.	8.56	8.56	—
Public Warehousing Co.	73.74	69.70	4.04
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	37.75	37.75	—
Mobile Telephone Syst.	295.24	285.71	9.52
Other Index			
Kuwait Index	57.11	55.29	1.82
Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index			
	Wednesday 10/05/89	Wednesday 03/05/89	Change points
First Gulf Bank	144.74	144.74	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	86.90	86.90	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	87.32	89.22	-0.90
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	79.05	78.10	0.95
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	49.24	49.24	—
Umm Al Quasin Cement	18.00	17.62	0.37
Gulf Medical Projects	21.15	21.15	—
Total Index	67.50	67.51	-0.01

—Base period 31/12/1983.
—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

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Banks shift tactics to combat dollar strength

Outcome likely to be higher rates in Europe

LONDON, May 13, (Reuters): Central banks from the West's leading industrial nations, locked in a game of psychological warfare with currency markets, have changed tactics in a new bid to curtail the dollar's strength.

Economists say the outcome is likely to be higher interest rates in Europe and perhaps Japan as central banks tighten liquidity in domestic money markets to support their currencies and prevent rising import prices adding to inflation.

The change in tactics, consistent with the Group of Seven (G-7) nations' 1987 "Louvre Accord" on currency co-operation, was signalled early this week by the abrupt halt of what had been almost a daily ritual of foreign exchange market intervention.

"We have to work on the assumption that central banks have been surprised by the dollar's strength and that they feel the appropriate response is to withdraw from intervention for a bit," said David Mars, economist at Warburg Securities.

"They will now bide their time before launching a counter-attack."

In the meantime, economists expect the West German Bundesbank to consider tightening monetary policy further, firstly by nudging money market rates higher.

The Group of Seven — the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Canada and Italy — spent most of this year intervening to stop the dollar rising against the mark.

Details of the pact are secret, but dealers believe the G-7 set that limit at 1.70 to 1.90 marks.

That changed on Monday this week when central banks conspicuously withdrew from the market, allowing the dollar to surge through 1.90 marks and settle nearly two pence higher.

The move puzzled currency markets and traders are still guessing. There are three main theories why the intervention stopped, with the third looking the most credible.

Central banks have agreed to change the rules of the game and raise their target for the dollar against the mark. The yen remains below its presumed upper limit of 140 to the dollar.

Central banks have laid a trap, allowing demand for the dollar to build to a point where massive intervention would trigger a sharp fall and teach speculators an expensive lesson.

Central banks have for the time being thrown in the towel on intervention, realising it cannot dampen fundamental demand for the dollar, and will raise interest rates instead.

Most economists rule out the first theory since they believe neither Europe nor Japan would agree to a higher dollar and an increase in import prices that would accompany it.

The dollar's strength has also cast doubt on the second theory since demand is being driven by investors and commercial transactions after a surge in dollar-denominated oil prices.

Despite record week of the year

Market faces confusion

NEW YORK, May 13, (AP): Wall Street analysts say that while the market hasn't lacked excitement lately, it has lacked conviction.

Take, for example, the April report on producer prices. The market waited all week for Friday's data while traders talked of higher inflation and gloomy predictions of a recession.

In the first 30 minutes after the opening bell, the Dow Jones industrial average zoomed over 40 points, and remained near that level during most of the day. Traders had been expecting a number higher than the 0.4 per cent rise the Labour Department reported.

The Dow average closed 56.82 points higher yesterday at 2,439.70, the highest level since the October 1987 stock market collapse and the biggest daily

gain since a 74.68-point rise on May 31, 1988. The previous post-crash high was 2,418.99 at the close on April 27. The 114.74 point gain for the week was the best this year, beating the 87.50 gain the week of Jan 23.

Among other barometers, the New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 3.42 for the week to 175.13, the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market rose 4.12 to 434.83 and the American stock exchange market value index edged up 1.46 to 348.30.

Problem It seems, as one analyst put it, that investors are living and dying on each piece of economic data shovelled out by the government — which, after all, reflect old news.

"The biggest problem the market faces is confusion and

lack of conviction because of confusion," says Alfred E. Goldman, vice president of the investment firm A.G. Edwards and Sons Inc. "It shows this market has little long-term conviction. Otherwise people wouldn't be so concerned with old news."

Traders and the investing public hoped the numbers would unravel the previous week's confusion over the April employment report. The report showed more people were out of work — an indication the economy might be slowing, while hourly earnings rose a substantial 7 cents — hinting inflation's tentacles might be stretching.

The jitters early in the week were reflected in the mealy volume. Despite 221.49 million shares traded yesterday, the week's volume averaged just 160.87 million shares a day, down from 163.25 million the

week before.

No sooner had some of the excitement died down than traders were talking about the upcoming consumer price data, another measure of inflation that some said might not produce the same favourable results.

"People want to keep the economy on overheat. But we keep getting mixed signals," says Thomas Walsh, head of equity trading at Nikko Securities International. "It's a critical period in a very fickle market — a market with little conviction."

The critical period amounts to a turning point in the economy, according to some economists.

With no clear-cut, long-term direction, the market is relying on short-term measurements to give it a jolt even though, as one expert put it, gambling on the PPI doesn't determine the value of a company.

Moscow should join FAO, says economist

MOSCOW, May 13, (Reuters): The Soviet Union, which refused to join the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) when it was founded 44 years ago, should now become a member to benefit from its expertise, a Soviet economist said.

The Soviet Union needed to take advantage of the FAO's knowhow in agricultural management and technology, Mikhail Kobishanov, economist at the Institute of World Economics and International Relations, said.

"The USSR's joining FAO would seem to be a necessity," he wrote in the latest edition of the weekly newspaper Moscow News.

"Membership in FAO would remove some obstacles in carrying out the foreign policy of the USSR, now caused by its absence in major world economic organisations," he added.

Advantage

Introducing Kobishanov's article, Moscow News said that when the FAO was founded in 1945, Soviet delegates refused to sign the organisation's charter, saying imperialist powers intended to take key posts and use the FAO to their advantage.

The Soviet Union has recently shown interest in joining several international economic organisations, including the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and the International Monetary Fund.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is anxious to increase poor agricultural yields and relieve chronic shortages of basic foods, which have been the most notable failure of his reform programme.

GM to build car plant in Iraq

BAGHDAD, May 13, (OPEC-NA): General Motors, the American auto giant, is to build a car assembly plant in Iraq, according to Minister of Trade Mohammed Mehdi Saleh.

Plans to buy more supercomputers

Move to help ease trade friction

TOKYO, May 13, (AP): The Japanese government has told the United States it plans to purchase eight supercomputers in the next three years as a demonstration of its market-opening measures, the foreign ministry said yesterday.

"We have implemented in good faith the (market-opening) procedures and had planned to procure eight supercomputers," the ministry said in a statement.

The ministry said it informed the United States on May 5 of the decision to buy the supercomputers in response to a report released April 28 by the office of the US Trade Representative charging that Japan maintains 32 unfair trade barriers for categories of US goods and services.

A ministry official denied news reports, however, that the government's decision to buy the supercomputers was directly linked to the USTR's report.

The Yomiuri Shimbun and the Nihon Keizai Shimbun, two prominent national dailies, reported yesterday that the government would buy eight US-made supercomputers to help ease trade friction.

"This decision was made several months ago," said the official, speaking on condition of

anonymity. "We also have not specified that the supercomputers will be US made, but only that the bidding process will be open and fair."

Participation

"We expect the participation of US companies in the public bidding for the purchases," the ministry said. Supercomputers are advanced-technology computers that perform complex calculations at rapid speed.

The statement denied the USTR charge that Japan discriminated against US-made supercomputers here. "Japan does not maintain a policy of protecting domestic production of supercomputers," it said.

Tokyo and Washington signed a bilateral agreement to promote Japanese public-sector purchases of US-made supercomputers after American manufacturers complained that the Japanese government favoured domestic supercomputers over US models.

The USTR report concluded that despite the agreement, no US sales of supercomputers have taken place.

Hahn expects higher sales

Volkswagen profits jump

WOLFSBURG, West Germany, May 13, (Reuters): Volkswagen AG (VW), West Germany's biggest car manufacturer, reported a 30 per cent jump in 1988 profits yesterday and said prospects for this year looked excellent.

VW managing board chairman Carl Hahn told reporters the company's 1988 group net profit rose to 780 million marks (\$406 million) from 598 million marks (\$311 million).

Hahn said the VW group and its subsidiaries had also seen profits rise in the first three months of this year.

"Volkswagen, Audi and Seat had an excellent start to 1989," Hahn said at the company's annual news conference.

First quarter group profits rose to 181 million marks (\$94 million) from 144 million marks (\$75 million) in the same 1988 period.

Profits

Hahn said the improvement in VW's profits was due mainly to a turnaround in the company's main subsidiaries.

VW's foreign companies — Seat in Spain, its Latin American Autolatina joint venture and its American subsidiary — had contributed most to this profits boost through cost-cutting measures, Hahn said.

Last year VW closed its loss-making plant in Westmoreland, Tennessee, shifting production of its best-selling Golf car to Mexico which now supplies the American market.

Hahn said its Autolatina venture with Ford was making money after suffering losses in previous years.

Seat was making a positive contribution to VW's European business by manufacturing the inexpensive Polo model, which had freed output capacity in West Germany for the Golf.

VW is the highest cost mass carmaker in Europe and Hahn said the company aimed at reducing production costs in West Germany.

Hahn was optimistic about prospects in 1989, expecting higher sales and profits. Last year VW had sales of nearly 60 billion marks (\$31 billion).

Plans to limit amount of lead in gasoline

ABU DHABI, May 13, (OPEC-NA): Dubai is to introduce regulations limiting the amount of lead in gasoline as part of measures to control pollution caused by motor vehicles, it was announced here.

According to Qassim Sultan, acting director of the emirate's metropolitan authority, the proposed law would apply to refiners, blenders and importers or producers of leaded gasoline.

He told "Gulf News" that Dubai was becoming increasingly concerned about environmental pollution, particularly in view of its growing population which was estimated to be rising yearly by 16 per cent.

"Inevitably, this intensifies environmental pressures, especially with the knowledge that the Gulf region is one of the most fragile and endangered ecosystems in the world," he said.

Sultan pointed out that a survey had shown that motor vehicles were responsible for over 90 per cent of the carbon monoxide emissions in the United Arab Emirates.

AMMAN

	OPNG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	1.90	1.89
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.98	2.00
ARAB BANK	148.5	148.0
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.44	4.42
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.41	2.41
ARAB INSURANCE	1.09	1.08
ARAB INT. INV/TRAD.	0.62	0.62
ARAB INT. INV/OW INS	1.01	1.06
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	1.05	1.09
ARAB JOR/INVT/BK	2.35	2.30
ARAB PAPER COM/TRD	0.41	0.39
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	3.26	3.34
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	1.02	1.03
ARAB POTASH CO.	1.45	1.45
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.15	1.15
BANK OF JORDAN	15.09	15.10
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITNA	1.00	0.95
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	31.00	30.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.47	0.47
DAR ALDAIA DV/INV.	2.41	2.42
DARCO/INVT/HOUS.	0.77	0.81
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.60	4.60
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.27	1.25
GENERAL MINING	2.10	2.10
HIMMER MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND./MATCH JEMCO	0.66	0.66
INDSTRI. DEVLPT BNK	1.63	1.65
INDSTRI./COM/AGR.	1.64	1.62
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN.COM/INV	0.13	0.13
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.90
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.87	1.86
J.TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.75	19.50
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	2.03	2.00
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.48	1.49
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR FINASS. INDUSTRY	0.99	0.99
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.43	2.40
JOR INS AND FIN	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83
JOR LIM BRICK	0.19	0.19
JOR LITH/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.41	2.50
JOR PAPER CARBON	3.75	3.60
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.60	3.60
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	1.97	1.99
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.79	1.72
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.96	0.98
JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12	1.11
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.03	1.93
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	2.30	2.33
JOR WORSTED MLL	5.00	5.00
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	0.91	0.91
JOR. PETROLEUM REF	7.88	7.85
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	2.41	2.43
JORDAN GULF REAL	0.36	0.36
JORDAN DAIRY	0.96	0.94
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.21	1.20
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	3.26	3.32
JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	1.99	1.99
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.38	1.40
JORDAN TANNING	2.05	2.06
LIVESTOCK/POULTRY.	0.71	0.71
MACH/EOU/RENT/MAIN	0.78	0.81
MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
MID EAST EXCHANGE	1.17	1.11
MIDDEL EAST HOTEL	0.48	0.48
MIDDEL EAST INS	2.00	2.02
MIDDEL EAST INS	0.75	0.75
MIDDEL EAST INS	0.75	0.75
NAT. FIN. INVEST CO	1.90	1.90
NAT/CABEL/WIRE/MF	2.30	2.40
NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.33	1.30
NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.97	0.96
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.90	0.90
NATIONAL STEEL	2.90	2.89
ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
PETRA BANK	2.50	2.50
PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.10	1.11
PRECAST CONCRETE	0.71	0.73
RAFIA INDUSTRIAL	1.91	1.91

KUWAIT

	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
BANK SECTOR						
NATIONAL BANK	0.990	0.980	0.980	0.980	410000	19
GULF BANK	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	606299	15
COMMERCIAL BK	0.285	0.280	0.285	0.280	500000	22
AHLI BANK	0.335	0.330	0.330	0.330	250000	3
B.K.M.E.	0.335	0.330	0.330	0.330	10000	1
K.R.E.B.	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340	10000	1
BURGAN BANK	0.295	0.290	0.290	0.290	300000	8
K.F.HOUSE	0.490	0.485	0.485	0.485	380000	21
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KUT INV. CO.	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	100000	1
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.210	100000	1
K.I.I.C.	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	100000	1
COM.FACILITIES	0.420	0.420	0.420	0.420	100000	1
AHLIA INV.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	100000	1
I.F.A.	0.043	0.043	0.043	0.043	100000	1
INV. PEARL KUT	0.085	0.088	0.088	0.087	1800000	5
NATIONAL INV.	0.065	0.066	0.066	0.065	1040000	19
KUT PROJECTS	0.082	0.084	0.085	0.081	2960000	33
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KUT INSURANCE	0.590	0.590	0.590	0.590	100000	1
GULF INSURANCE	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	100000	1
AHLIA INS. CO.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	100000	1
JARBA INS. CO.	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340	100000	1
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.124	0.134	0.134	0.130	1420000	28
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.056	0.056	0.056	0.056	100000	1
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	100000	1
SALAHIA R.E.	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	100000	1
KUT R.E.T.COM	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	100000	1
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	100000	1
KUT M.P. IND.	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	100000	1
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	100000	1
REF. IND. CO.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	100000	1

US indicators provide further evidence

Pace of economic growth slows

Stocks, bonds surge

Inflation fears crumble

NEW YORK, May 13, (Reuters): An encouraging report on US inflation sent Wall Street stocks and bonds surging yesterday as investors saw fresh signs that the economy is cooling and interest rates may be ready to fall.

The producer price index, a gauge of wholesale-level inflation, rose just 0.4 per cent in April, the government said. Wall Street had expected a 0.7 per cent rise.

Stocks shot up from the opening bell on the report, and its implications for a slowing economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average jumped 44.36 to 2,427.24 by 1900 GMT.

Stocks reached their highest levels since the October 1987 market crash, with the Dow topping the previous closing high of 2,418.99 on April 27. Rises led falls 11-3 in strong New York stock exchange volume of 174 million shares.

The bond market staged a powerful rally, dropping the yield on the 30-year treasury issue to 8.85 per cent from a 9.11 per cent average in the US treasury's auction of new 30-year bonds on Thursday. The price of the long bond jumped 2-1/2 points, or about \$25 per \$1,000 of face value, to 100-09/32 from the average auction price of 97-18/32.

"There is very strong followthrough on this (PPI) number," said Charles Schaeffer of Irving Trust Co.

The dollar initially fell on the prospect that interest rates may ease — lowering the value of dollar-backed assets — and on dollar sales by central banks concerned about its recent strength. But the dollar later resumed its upturn.

India Day disappointing



Vocalists presenting a group song, 'Allah tero naam'. (Allah is Thy name)

HUNDREDS of people turned out for the India Day held at the Baeid Al Gar Sea Club, perhaps to see the Taj Mahal, a glimpse of culture. Twelve Indian groups organised the two-day festival, held on Thursday and Friday.

Undoubtedly, it was an evening out for the families — the children had great fun running wild in the spacious grounds of the Sea Club. The cool May breeze acted as a balm for frayed nerves particularly after the cultural show — a dismal projection of Indian arts and music.

One can overlook the restricted display of Indian hand-

icrafts at the stalls as artefacts were collected from different sources and put together for the show. However, one fails to sympathise with the poor organisation, described as "organisational hiccups" by the compere, and the sub-standard selection of items for what was passed off as a cultural show.

The defects, like off-key, lullaby music and unsynchronised dancing, were more glaring due to the past record of entertainment and quality performances presented by some amateur Indian groups at the IAC.

—FA



A dance number.

Harlem Globetrotters to play in Kuwait

THE well-known Harlem Globetrotters basketball team will play in Kuwait on May 16 and 17 at the Al Arabi Club, Mansouriya.

The Harlem Globetrotters, who are currently touring the Middle East, are playing before capacity crowds in Bahrain, Muscat, Doha, Dubai and Abu Dhabi.

"It's a hectic schedule," says Globetrotters General Manager Joseph Anzino. They began their tour in Saudi Arabia on May 7 and will cover the Gulf and North Africa before ending with Casablanca on May 26.

Thrilled

This is the first time the real Harlem Globetrotters are playing in the Middle East. Two years ago, a team advertised as the Globetrotters played in the Gulf, but that was not the genuine team, he said. The "genuine team has thrilled spectators in 103 different countries and millions more on TV for over 60 years," he added.

The Globetrotters have a big following among all ages and nationalities. "They are perfect for the Middle East because their show is so visual — it does not depend on language so it can be appreciated by everyone."

Famous

The Globetrotters are famous the world over for their style of play which combines hilarious showmanship with high level of basketball skills.

The ten man line averages



Harold 'Bobo' Hubbard over 6 feet 5 inches in height. Sweet Lou Dunbar, towering in at 6 feet 10 inches, has returned to the 1989 squad.

"We have scouted the top ranked college teams from coast to coast to locate the cream of the crop," said head-coach Charles Harrison. "This is an overpowering squad who really make things happen," he added. With them on the tour will be their long time — and long suffering rivals, the Washington Generals, described by the Sports Illustrated magazine as the "losingest team in basketball history."

Tickets, priced at KD7, KD5 and KD3, will be on sale at Al Arabi Club and Kuwait International Hotel.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
9.45 Magazine D'Actualite
10.00 Yasen Wa Bahiya: Arabic Serial (Part 4)
10.45 News Summary and varieties
11.00 Al Aswar (Part 4): Local serial
12.00 Sadiq Aw La Tu Sadiq: (Believe It or Not), Foreign Program
1.00 News Summary
1.05 Holy Quran and Close down

EVENING

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 The World via Satellite
4.45 Sherlock Holmes: Cartoon Serial
5.15 Tum Tac Wa Al Aftal: Local Children Programme
5.30 Laila Min Alf Laila: Cultural Programme for Children
6.00 Qandeel Shabiya: Historical Serial
7.30 Varieties
7.45 Diwanayat Shu'ara Al Nabat: Local Programme
8.30 Masa' al Khir and Local News
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Layali al Hilmiya: Daily Serial (Part 4)
10.45 Varieties: late night feature, with Guest Singer Mohammed Abdoh
11.45 News Summary
11.50 The World News via Satellite

KTV 2

12.15 Holy Quran and Close down

4.00 Opening and Holy Quran

6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial for children

6.30 The Scientific Eye "Earth Limited" A look at raw materials and the possibility of recycling their utilization...

7.00 In the Wild With Harry "Tropical Australia" Part II. A story of animals, reptiles and snakes living in such harsh environment and their growth

7.30 Sea Hunt "Girl In The Trunk" A false magician keeps a girl in a trunk which is pushed down to sea bottom, where a diver opens it and the girl swims to the surface... to be greeted by the public.

8.00 News in English
8.30 Murder, She Wrote.

9.30 Nature Watch A bird similar to hens lives in a very cold environment in Japan and how it is adapted to such environment...

10.00 You Can't Take It With You

10.30 Best-Seller "Lonesome Dove" Part 2

12.00 News in Brief

12.45 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 Newsdesk
30 Composer of the Month (ex 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream)
0100 News Summary (ex 23rd) followed by Play of the Week: 2nd and 9th Body and Soul, 10th A Pair of Spectacles, 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream
0200 World News
0500 Newsdesk
0530 News Summary
0600 Newsdesk
0630 News Summary
0700 World News
0730 News Summary
0800 Newsdesk
0830 News Summary
0900 Newsdesk
0930 News Summary
1000 Newsdesk
1030 News Summary
1100 Newsdesk
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1830 News Summary
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2030 News Summary
2100 Newsdesk
2130 News Summary
2200 Newsdesk
2230 News Summary
2300 Newsdesk
2330 News Summary
2400 Newsdesk
2430 News Summary

0000 World News

09 Words of Faith
15 The Pleasure's Yours
0900 World News
0930 Brush Press Review
15 Nature Now
30 Financial Review
30 Book Choice
45 Short Story
1000 News Summary followed by Science in Action
30 In Praise of God
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 From Our Own Correspondent
30 Composer of the Month (ex 23rd) A Midsummer Night's Dream
1200 News Summary (ex 23rd) followed by Play of the Week: 2nd and 9th Body and Soul, 10th A Pair of Spectacles, 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours News Summary
30 Sports Roundup
45 Worldline
1400 News Summary followed by Leaders and Leadership
30 Anything Goes
1500 Newsdesk
1530 Concert Hall (ex 9th Sports World)
1600 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Russia: The Drive to
45 Letter from America

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Hajri Pharmacy
Al Hilali St., Al Hajri Building
Al Salam Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabir St., Near the Universal Hotel
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Qatan Pharmacy
Nagra, Al Othman St., Al Yarmouk Complex,
Salmiya and Rumailiya
Al Raed Pharmacy
Rumailiya, Amman St.,
Fahad and Ahmad
Alwafa Pharmacy
Fahad, Al Dabous St., Al Dabous Qaysariya
Old Khashan
Al Aham Pharmacy
Plot 2, Property of Sulaiman Saleh
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
The New Commercial Market
Sulabikhat
Bound for Glory
Ahmadi Drive-in
Moving

CINEMA TODAY

Andalus
Iron Angels
Salmiya
Nuts
Hamra
Arabic film
Drive-In
Arabic film
Firdous
Andha Yudhi
Starring: Raj Babbar, Pallavi

Joshi
Fahad Open-air
Gungahat
Al Jebb
1921
Fahad
Nico
Jahra
Love Story
Granada
Hathon Ki Lakheeran

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.27 am
Zuhr	11.44
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.32
Isba	7.59

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Arabian Gulf
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts, rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Bangladesh Art Show
MAY 13-27: Bangladeshi artist Monirul Islam will show 45 paintings at the Kuwait National Museum. Islam's paintings revolve around the life of Bangladeshis. Landscapes are also on show. The exhibition will be open from 8.30 am to 12.30 noon and 4 to 7.30 pm. It has been organised by the Bangladesh Association.

MUSIC

Kuwait Singers
KUWAIT Singers present "Stage Struck" an evening of show songs from Broadway and the West End at Gulf English School, Salwa on Wednesday 24th May and Thursday 25th May at 8.00 pm. Price KD3 to include refreshments. For reservations please phone 5317433/5384873.

Geet and Gazals
MAY 19: A musical programme "Bhooley Bisyar Geet Gazals" is to take place at Sharq auditorium. They are also on the lookout for singers to participate in this programme. Those interested may contact: Anwar H. Abdulla - 3989111 ext. 6811; 8 am - 3 pm.

SOCIAL

German-speaking Cultural Association
MAY 14, 10 am: Due to the Eid holiday, the next coffee morning for the German-speaking ladies will be held on Sunday at the Holiday Inn Hotel. All are welcome.

Danish Coffee Morning
MAY 14: Daniella invites all

Danish ladies for coffee morning at the Dana Restaurant, May 14, 9.30 am. For reservations call Ingli - 3713670; Marianne - 3720182 ext. 29.

Musical evening
MAY 17 (8.30 pm). The Phil Thomas Sextet and Karl and Christine Anderson with their band present an evening of British and American jazz, rock and pop music at the Holiday Inn. For reservations contact: 5629452/4834938/5387998.

Ex-The get-together
MAY 18: Roorkee University Alumni Association will have a family get-together. For details contact tele. 2551305 or 5639325.

Cricket Club
MAY 18: 8 pm. Messiah Beach Hotel. Annual dinner with special guest speaker Brian Close CBE, former captain of England and Yorkshire. Courtesy of British Airways. Live music. For tickets and information call Simon Clements (53333248) or Val Tudball (5327159).

Kuwait Caledonians
MAY 18: Messiah Beach Hotel. The Caledonians will hold a "celebrity" (gathering) with entertainment by John Carmichael and others. Tel: 5335082; 3727690 ext. 253.

ACT play

MAY 16-18: ACT presents a play by Raymond Briggs, "When the Wind Blows" at the Mousetrap Theatre in Jabriya at 8 pm both days. For reservations call: 5620332, 4-8 pm.

Summer Bazaar
MAY 19: 2.00 pm, St Pauls Ahmadi, grand summer bazaar at the new British Consulate in the British Embassy grounds, sale of handicrafts, paperbacks, preserves good as new, plants, bottle stall, white elephant, numerous fun side shows etc. Plus prize draw for British Airways round trip tickets Kuwait-London, Delhi, Madras or Karachi.

Arabian Nights
MAY 19: Arabian Nights evening at the Jawhara Night-club, Messiah Beach Hotel. Dress: Middle Eastern, past or present; 20 costume prizes; candlelit dinner - 9 pm. Tel: 4847461 or leave message on 2614201.

Jukebox 5
MAY 23-25: The Sounds Great production of Jukebox 5, will be presented at the Salmiyah Cinema at 8 pm and also at 5 pm on May 25. For reservations ring 5740256/7 (mornings and 4 to 7 pm) or 5718143 or

5731782. Tickets will be on sale at Salmiyah Cinema Box Office from May 14.

Nomads Oval Ball
MAY 25 (Thursday); Nomads Oval Ball at Holiday Inn hotel. Formal dress; 7.30 pm start. Guest speaker from UK. Music and buffet dinner. Limited number of tickets available. For details call Graham Adams - 5644533; Hugh McAree 5326328.

Mando Festival
MAY 26: For the first time in the history of Goans in Kuwait — Kuwait Konkani Kendri (KKK) is going to organise a Konkani, Mando Festival, at Hotel Meridien starting at 10.30 am. The Konkani Kendri will be performing a variety of Konkani songs and dances. MAY 28: June 1: Kuwait Players will present the last production of the 1988/89 season is a comedy entitled When Did You Last See Your Trousers. At 7.30 pm nightly at the Universal American School. Tickets - KD3. For reservations call: 5637088 and 5629875.

Kuwait-Weish Society
MAY 31: The annual general meeting of the society will be held on Wednesday at 8 pm. For details call 391-2384; 372-9132; 371-3467; 562-5316.

Konkani Drama

JUNE 15, 16: Naahibacho Divo Paloulo, the Konkani drama which has been scheduled to stage on May 18 and 19 has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances. The MAR productions drama, directed by Prem Kumar, now plans to stage on June 15 and 16 at 4.00 pm at Indian Arts Circle.

Get-together

JUNE 16: The Go-Go Club will be having a get-together at the Ramada Al-Salem Hotel from 11 am onwards with Stepping Stone and Symphony in attendance. For details contact Raju 2412970.

FILMS

British Council
MAY 20/21 (6.30 pm): "A Room With a View," an adaptation of E.M. Forster's novel will be shown at the British Council, Mansouriya. Featuring an incomparable cast, recipient of three Oscars, it tells the story of Lucy Honeychurch (Helena Bonham-Carter), a beautiful young English girl abroad, whose emotions are rocked when she witnesses a murder, and whose life is forever altered by the sudden

and mysterious arrival of a passionate young man. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 253-3204; 252-23227.

HOTELS

At the Sheraton
HUNTRoom: Upto May 19 — fresh asparagus promotion, where some of the most delicious preparations make their way to the tables of the diners. Live entertainment by our new lady pianist Miss Ewa Kaminska.

At the Coffee Shop: Fresh strawberry promotion starts as of May 20, for a period of one week. Enjoy some of the most delicious of creations of strawberries and have an outing to remember.

At the Al Hambra: Daily lunch buffet. Entertainment night by The Lords. Oriental buffet for dinner. Al Hambra is closed on Fridays. Kiddie brunch every Friday in the Ballroom 'B'.

At the Le Tarbouche: Daily lunch and dinner a la carte. The "Arab world specialties" continue every Thursday featuring specialties from the Arab world cuisine.

At the Riccardo: Enjoy the best of Italian cuisine with our home made pasta every day for lunch and dinner with live entertainment from the Seima Duo. Riccardo is closed on Fridays.

SPECIAL weekly promotion at La Brasserie restaurant. Asian corner every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes, in addition to the regular buffet, will be featured. Tempura, fried noodles, etc. are prepared in front of the guests and served on the spot.

Mexican night every Sunday. Discover the delight of Mexican cuisine awaiting you in our Little Mexico.

Greek Taverna every Tuesday. Experience authentic Greek ambience and food with bouzouki music and a wide variety of mezzah.

Family day every Friday. Enjoy a Friday with your family. La Brasserie offers a wide array of Oriental favourites along with live music entertainment plus magician to thrill the little ones and many other games for the children.

At the Holiday Inn
AT the Coffe Shop: A sumptuous buffet for lunch or dinner for only KD4.750 for adults and half price per child.

At the Vienna Cafe: Delec-

table...luscious fakes and pastries, served with coffee, tea and juices with the Gharbian Trio providing music.

At Al Andalus: Family brunch — a wholesome day for the family. Entertainment includes Walt Disney cartoon characters plus performance from the great magician. Let your kids enjoy every minute of the day. Delicious mouth watering food and a variety of desserts all for the price of KD5.000 for adults and half the price per kid.

At the swimming pool: It's a great night out by the pool, starting at 8.00 pm. Barbecue, music, games, prizes and surprises await each one. Bring your family and friends to savour our delicious shazad barbecue.

SPORTS

At the Holiday Inn: SWIMMING lessons have commenced which is available for non-members.

Mondays (6 to 7 pm) separate ladies and men's fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill.

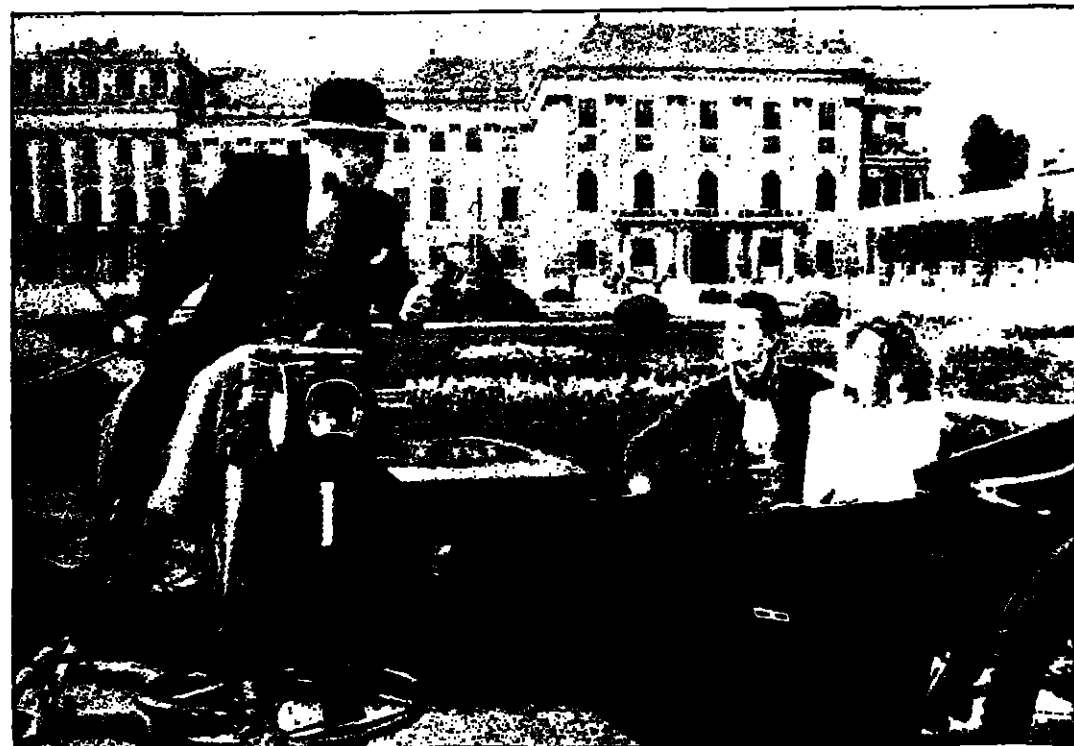
Saturdays and Wednesdays (5 to 6 pm) ladies aerobics and Saturdays (6 to 7 pm) mixed aerobics, with Touvi Pakasalo.

Saturdays and Tuesdays yoga (7 to 8 pm). Bowling alley available for company tournaments. Sundays squash handicap tournament, all standards welcome. Tennis coaching available for non-members. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selective professionals: loss of weight, body building, massage (steam-oil-and cream) for ladies and men. Contact the recreation department on 4742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

Tennis Fun Cup

MAY 18-24: The first Tennis Nation's Fun Cup will be held on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Federal Republic of Germany. Twenty-four teams are expected to participate in the tournament, due to be held at the Regency Palace Hotel. Each team should consist of three players, including one female, of the same nationality. For registration, teams must submit names and passport copies of team members to the Fitness Centre, Regency Palace Hotel. Fees: KD18 per team. Public draw on May 16. May 25, 3-8 pm. Finals to be followed by tennis party, open to the public. For queries call the German Week Office: Tel: 5728000 ext 7204.

Vienna. The Austrian capital is the heart of Europe. It's location has made it one of the most important cultural centres. Viennese charm and



Austrian hospitality are well known throughout the world — so come and discover Vienna!



AUSTRIAN AIRLINES

Reservations and Ticketing: Fahad Al Salem Str., Dawliah Commercial Centre, Kuwait, Tel. 24 13 532, 24 13 548, 24 48 694. Al Kazemi Travel Agencies (GSA), Fahad Al Salem Str., Al Abrar Building, Kuwait, Tel. 24 50 655.

IN
Grand Stores
Till 30th May 1989

Little international sympathy or understanding

No place for refugees on planet earth

By William Shawcross

THE world is full of tourists and the world is full of refugees. Sometimes they go to the same places. Some Thai beaches are literally divided in half by barbed wire. On the one side are plump pink European tourists who tumble frivolously off their Jumbos in search of a fortnight's sun, sand and sex. They will soon go home.

Watching them over the wire are the skinny Vietnamese — those who have survived the South China Sea in frail, sinking craft — who come here in search of some belief in freedom and/or improvement.

I have been a tourist in refugee camps myself and it occurred to me in a darker moment that some enterprising travel agency or airline or glossy magazine might offer a splendid theme tour. Around the world special package:

● Miami beaches — "Relax with a Manhattan on the sand" — for the Haitians.

● Hong Kong markets — "fabulous shopping" — for the Vietnamese (or Thai beaches).

● Sri Lanka — "The temple bells are calling" — for the Tamils.

● Vienna — "City of Strauss, Freud and Waldheim" — for Poles and other Europeans.

There is no end of possible journeys to see these strange people who have risked and lost so much. "From the First World to the Fourth World."

Buy now at bargain prices. Return flights all bookable. Especially important this last guarantee. It is no joke to be caught in a refugee camp without an onward booking.

The refugee world is a fourth world. It is a world of about 14 million people. It is a terrible reflection of the way in which we are dealing with the technological shrinking of the globe. A refugee, according to the 1951 United Nations Convention, is "a person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution, for reasons of race, religion, nationality,

membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of origin and is unable or, owing to such fears, unwilling to return to it."

Most refugees are not fleeing acts of God; they are fleeing acts of man. Five million people have fled from Afghanistan since 1980, and the continuous turmoil in Central America has resulted in hundreds of thousands fleeing the area.

Governments and insurgent movements all over the world consider that driving people from their homes is admirable military policy. And so today, most refugees are those whose very existence governments exploited; they and their homes and their lives were seen as a barrier to some sectarian, often vicious, vision of victory.

Camps, "villagization," free fire zone, strategic hamlet — all these are part of the brave new world into which refugees are being forced, daily, all over the world.

How did the world get into this crisis? All too easily. The way-stations of this bloody century are almost all marked by the remorseless, relentless trudge of millions forced out of their homes. Refugees are symbols of our time:

Armenians, Russians, Germans, Jews, central Europeans, Hindus and Muslims, Palestinians, Hungarians, Cubans, Biafrans, Bengalis, Biharis, Vietnamese, Lao, Cambodians, Chileans, Czechoslovaks, Somalis, Poles, Ethiopians, Ugandans, Salvadorans, Afghans — just a partial list of nationalities provides a mournful litany of disaster.

It is a cliché that our world is more and more tightly and inextricably intertwined than ever. International conglomerates beam, via satellites, Dallas and Dynasty, and advertisements for sex with booze, sex with cars, sex with soap down into the barrens of the Third World. Western culture becomes



global and is meant to be commercially enticing. And yet we punish, abuse and abjure those who are attracted.

Those whom our governments throw out or force back on to planes as mere economic migrants are often those whom our policies have helped to impoverish and whom the advertisers have yet beckoned as consumers.

When I last flew across the Atlantic I wondered if any of the passengers queuing for the lavatories were going to tear up their false papers and throw themselves on the mercy of the immigration officers on arrival.

I wondered if any of them were or would be, those refugees who constantly, every day of the year, shuttle the world, in and out of departure lounges, cursed and abused by policemen and guards of every political hue.

All over the world, airline officials are being ordered to sniff out refugees on planes, just as dogs are supposed to sniff out bombs.

The man or the woman at the check-in desk now has not just the power but the duty to determine whether a would-be passenger from, say Sri Lanka, is seeking asylum in his destination — and then to throw him or her off the flight. The airline is fined if the clerk

slips up.

This is happening on flights bound for Europe in particular. As the Common Market prepares for the economic liberalization of 1992, it is becoming ever more illiberal in its policies towards refugees.

In terms of trade the barriers will come down, but against refugees they are already going up. Europe seems determined after 1992 to make itself a fortress.

This is the testimony of a Kurdish woman who landed at an airport seeking asylum: "As soon as we arrived, my husband was taken away from us. He struggled and was hit in the face. We did not know what was happening. We thought we had come to freedom. We told them we had been badly treated in Iran and had had to escape. In the night an interpreter came to our room in the detention centre, but we were too scared to talk and were very tired. We were searched naked and interviewed, but we were not sure what information we should give."

"We were interviewed again separately. Then an officer told us we must return to Yugoslavia. But we said they would send us back to Iran. The baby cried but I was not allowed to feed her. An officer put her arm tightly

around my neck and I was sick.

We were very frightened and the children were hungry and crying. Two men and two women officials handcuffed me with my hands behind my back and straps around my feet. My husband was handcuffed too. The officials said, 'If we don't restrain you, might try to kill yourselves.' That was not in Pretoria, not in Romania, not in China. That was in Heathrow.

In 1967, the committee of ministers of the Council of Europe resolved that "governments should act in a particularly liberal and humanitarian spirit in relations to persons who seek asylum in their territory." No such spirit exists in Europe today.

Britain passed the UK Carriers Act in May 1987, which made airlines financially responsible for bringing unwanted refugees into Britain. A month later the European Parliament in Brussels condemned measures which "make it virtually impossible for asylum seekers to avail themselves of the rights of asylum" and criticized "flagrant violations of human rights and international law perpetrated by border officials who, in particular in Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Copenhagen and London airports, are forcibly returning ever greater numbers of asylum seekers..."

Since then things have got worse. In May 1987, Sri Lankan torture victims who had hoped for asylum in Britain have instead been locked up in The Earl William — an old ferry in the North Sea. European governments have created the so-called Trevi group. It consists of representatives of ministries of the interior and justice from 12 European countries who meet secretly to try to harmonize policy on drug trafficking, terrorism and refugees. In other words, seekers of asylum are bundled together with drug traders and murderers.



The refugee world is a fourth world. It is a world of about 14 million people who are fleeing acts of man... and their plight is worsening everyday.

European governments are talking in highly emotive terms about the flood of refugees which will swamp them. They deny refugees as bogus abusers of the right to asylum. Anyone would think, given the rhetoric and the Draconian measures, that a huge proportion of the 14 million refugees in the world were struggling to get into the European fortress. Not at all.

There are 731,000 refugees in Europe and more than 13 million in the rest of the world. About 10 per cent of the world's refugees are in Western Europe and North America; the rest remain in the Third World. The rich are slamming their doors and crying wolf, and doing far too little to help.

The economic, political and social problems of the First World cannot be denied. But nor do they render asylum an

optional, casual, arbitrary act of so-called generosity.

Under Article 14 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution." The right goes back a lot further than that. Arguably it is one of the oldest recognized human rights, but it is becoming increasingly vulnerable.

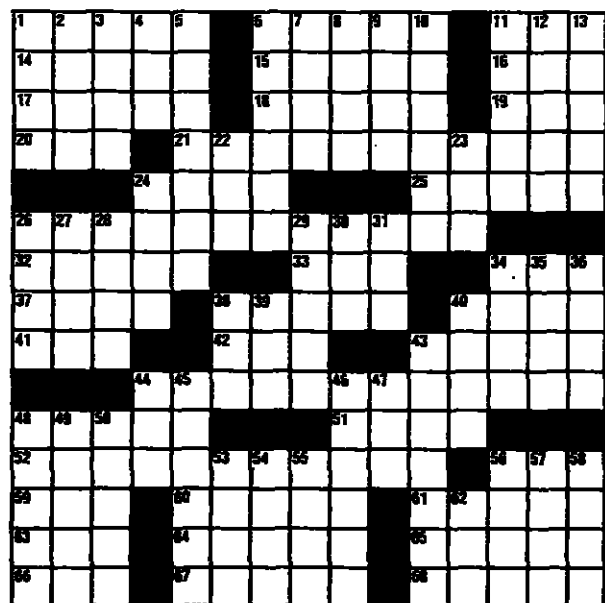
What is to be done? In part, it is a question of attitude. It is worth recalling the work of the first international official solely responsible for refugees. This was Fridtjof Nansen, the polar explorer. In the 1920s, under the auspices of the League of Nations, he provided travel papers for at least 1.5 million White Russians and later for Armenians and Greeks. They were known as Nansen

passports. By the time he died in 1930, he had come to personify the refugee cause and had given their predicament a meaning all over the Western world that it had never before enjoyed.

Refugees today do not arouse such international sympathy and understanding. Governments need to be reminded that people who seek asylum are not criminals. They must have the right to legal advice when applying for refugee status. Their applications should be dealt with quickly. A new Nansen, and the restoration of the spirit of Nansen, is desperately needed.

● Forced Out — The Agony of the Refugee in Our Time, by Carole Kismaric published last week (Human Rights Watch and J.M. Kaplan Fund, in association with Penguin, -12.95).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD

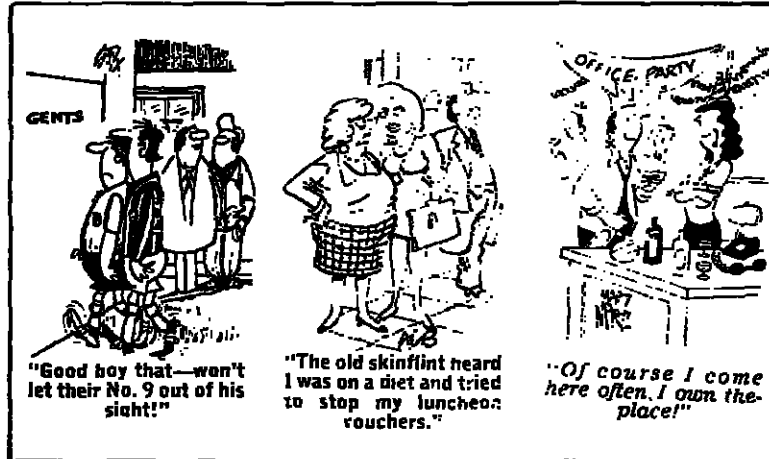


- ACROSS**
- Roman assembly
 - Tended the lawn
 - Rubenesque
 - Broadway hit of the 1980's
 - La Scala offering
 - Imitate
 - Communications medium
 - Durable fabric
 - Talk, mod style
 - Wash.-N.Y. dir.
 - The middle class
 - Do a sleuth's job
 - Of value
 - Large-scale controversy
 - Place to tie the knot
 - Hoosier humorist
 - Actor O'Neal, to friends
 - Imitate Lao
 - Acting Adams
 - Philippines tribesman
 - Biblical verb ending
 - Hockey great
 - Spice used in curries
 - Settled unequivocally
 - Expert of a sort
 - Pretensions
 - Enthusiasts
 - Repartee
 - Container
 - Choice steak
 - Playwright's play
- DOWN**
- Poetic palindrome
 - Mirthful
 - One whose goose is cooked
 - Liszt's "Preludes"
 - Artur of tennis et al.
 - Senior DOWN
 - Do the honors
 - Range feature
 - Ruffie
 - Salt Lake City player
 - Heavyweight champ of 1934
 - Apollo unit
 - 15 Across, in Berlin
 - Name of fame in crosswords
 - Part of HOMES
 - Affaire — language
 - "To fetch —"
 - Plains Indian's home
 - Ending with hex or hexan
 - Social ending
 - Peter or Paul
 - Be concerned
 - Thanks —
 - Nevada's neighbor
 - Gene Tierney role
 - Teaching deg.
 - Honey provider
 - Partner of circumstance

GOREN BRIDGE

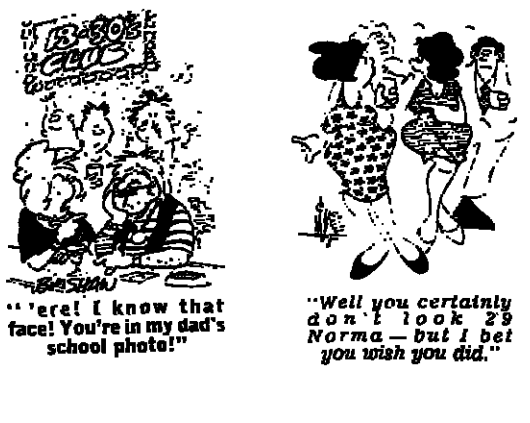
BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠ Q63 ♥ 1083 ♦ 42 ♣ QJ954
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♠ Dbl 1 NT Pass
Pass 2 ♠ Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ J9852 ♥ 102 ♦ Q103 ♣ A42
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass ?
What action do you take?
- Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ J9852 ♥ 102 ♦ Q103 ♣ A42
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ J9852 ♥ 102 ♦ Q103 ♣ A42
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ A76 ♥ A10762 ♦ K10854 ♣ Void
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠ A76 ♥ A10762 ♦ K10854 ♣ Void
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ALPH SELF TRIP
LAVIE OMAR HARE
BREAD SAUCE OR CAP
ADS GAPS SPOKES
ELY SCOW
LABORS DOORSTOP
OURS CRUIET IRA
TEAR HOUND OR LAG
TEE HOARD HERRA
SISITERLY CHOSEN
NIS MAO
AFIAME BARN LOB
MAILS BOARDOREY
ALAI ORINE RAVEL
SARA WEDS SWIRL



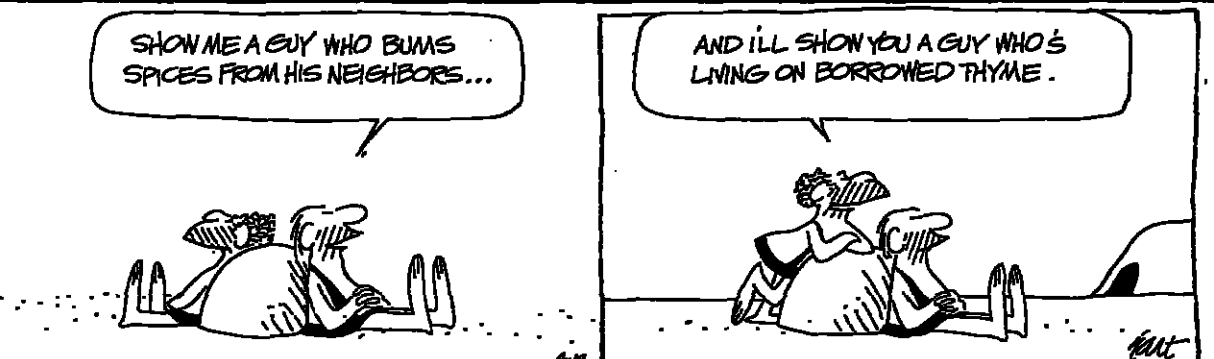
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

- Aries (March 20 - April 18)**
You will be able to devote more time to a personal project. A good idea of yours will now begin to bear fruit. You should try to give no less than you take. Be cordial.
- Cancer (June 21 - July 21)**
Live for the day, but do remember that provision should be made for the future too. Make sure your partner feels loved and wanted. Avoid acting on impulse and do not trust too much in intuition. Be frugal.
- Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)**
You will have some doubts about whether you are doing the right thing, but they will be overcome. You should avoid relying more on luck than on judgement. Try to ensure that you do not get into anyone's way. Be sensible.
- Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)**
Make sure your partner does not have doubts about your love and affection. The solution to a problem will be found in a different direction to that you have been seeking to hitherto.
- Taurus (April 19 - May 19)**
Do ensure you do not lose sight of your objectives. You will have something to be pleased about, but this does not mean relaxing your efforts. Make sure you do not neglect a small infection. Be sincere.
- Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)**
Nothing will proceed quite as you would have liked, but the worst will not happen. You should try to take your mind off work. Make sure you eat a balanced diet, and just enough to avoid gaining or losing weight. Be fair.
- Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)**
You will meet someone much to your liking. Do not spend money just in order to try to keep pace with a rich neighbour. Do not allow a hobby to become an obsession. Be courteous.
- Gemini (May 20 - June 20)**
You will be too easily persuaded and should be more on your guard. You should avoid doing anything that might aggravate those close to you. Avoid being mean but also avoid extravagance. Your lucky numbers are 14 and 9. Be prompt.
- Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)**
You should not allow yourself to be intimidated. An impulse to speed more than you can really afford must be curbed. Try to find time to read a good book. Be magnanimous.
- Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)**
Not everything will be quite as you would have wished it to be. You should try to look at life from a more positive and objective point of view. Make sure you do not neglect your health. Be just.
- Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)**
You should make sure you keep abreast of new developments, but please, no changes just for the sake of change. You would do well to try to use a little more common sense.
- Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)**
You will find a better way of doing something you have been doing in a rather clumsy fashion. And you will be able to persuade others to your point of view. Make sure you do not forget something you have said, you would do.

HEALTH AND MEDICINE



The cress test: healer Boltwood holds soaked seeds



Boltwood 'heals' the cress in his hands



After two minutes some of the seeds have germinated.

Laboratory tests investigate spiritual healing

Psychic healing or a conjuring trick?

By Sarah Stacy

IN MANY parts of the world, men and women with healing powers have been honoured for millennia. But the medical establishment in Britain is ambivalent. While reluctant to dismiss spiritual healers in this country, it remains deeply sceptical about the real effects.

Dr Stuart Carne, president of the Royal College of General Practitioners, says: "I would not stop a patient going to a healer but I would not suggest consulting one. I do not myself believe that it works. I would have to see a great deal more controlled scientific evidence."

Now, for the first time, Dr Tony Scofield and Dr David Hodges, lecturers in physiology at London University, are making public the results of experiments in healing energy.

These may go some way to meeting calls for scientific evaluation which were also made in a British Medical Association report on alternative medicine in 1986.

Eighteen months ago, Geoff Boltwood, a psychic healer and medium, decided to test his powers scientifically.

Scofield, who has already reviewed the scientific evidence for homeopathy, and David Hodges, have a particular interest in psychic phenomena. "Our aim was to conduct simple tests which could be easily repeated," Scofield says.

The tests show that Geoff Boltwood is in some way transmitting an energy which is influencing seeds under stress so that they throw off the effects of that stress and germinate more normally.

The photographs show another plant experiment conducted on April 16 which I observed with a photographer, a "complete sceptic" who would later change his mind.

Seeds from an unopened packet of curled cress were placed in water for 10 minutes. Boltwood "healed" them for two minutes. When he opened his hands, the seeds were a goopy mass. About a quarter had germinated, some had rootlets at least one centimetre long. After another two minutes of healing, one sprouted a stalk and a tiny white leaf.

The manufacturers, Suttons Seeds, explained that germination on wet filter or blotting



Geoff Boltwood (centre) prepares for his 'cress' test under the watchful eye of two doctors.

According to Hodges: "In five cases, the faster growth rate of the treated seeds is highly significant scientifically."

"The rate of germination and development of the healed seeds is, at or close to double the rate of the untreated control group. The results are far more than we would normally need to show in a scientific experiment."

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The manufacturers, Suttons Seeds, explained that germination on wet filter or blotting

paper would normally take two to four days.

Reports of such experiments attract accusations of fraud. Despite the photographic evidence, one scientist said that Boltwood must have hypnotised Scofield, Hodges and their observers into believing the seeds had germinated.

The two doctors are satisfied that all reasonable precautions were taken. Boltwood's hands were washed with distilled water before and after the trials and wired to a recording thermometer which showed virtually no temperature change during the healing. A seed physiologist knew of no chemical which could speed the growth to the extent recorded.

Neither Scofield nor Hodges can explain what is happening. "Something is going on which is not encompassed by conventional scientific lore. But most scientists will not believe these results," says Scofield.

One eminent physicist is encouraging. Prof. David Bohm, Emeritus professor of physics at Birkbeck College, commented that the results, as reported to him, are "very interesting and suggest further connections, some new sort of energy, between people and things."

"We have something similar in physics called non-local interaction. It is beyond what present-day science knows but new developments could perhaps eventually deal with it."

Others are disbelieving. John Maddox, editor of Nature magazine, feels such results are "a non-existent phenomenon. Many of these people are self-deceiving. They are doing conjuring tricks without knowing it."

In 1986 Leeds General Infirmary started trials on the efficacy of healing in patients with rheumatoid arthritis. Other trials are reportedly in progress.

Boltwood has no doubts about his psychic ability. From the age of five, he remembers "seeing people" whom nobody else seemed to notice. One man "turned out to be someone my mother had known who died some years before I was born."

He did not discover his healing powers until much later. At 28, a chance visit to a spiritualist changed his life. "The woman really impressed me. She told me to come to the church and do some healing."

His first patient was a woman in agony with a slipped disc. "I was terrified, but something took over. I put my hands on her head then in the middle of her back.

Within minutes, she was absolutely free of pain."

His healing energy, he thinks, acts as a catalyst which allows patients to use their own innate healing ability.

Physicians agree that positive attitudes play a large part in recovery. "We all respond better if we are given sympathy and encouragement," says Dr David Warrel, professor of tropical medicine and infectious diseases at Oxford University.

Boltwood maintains that he can do more. "I tune patients in to the possibility of getting well: then I externalise my psychic energy into actual physical energy which combines with their own expectation of healing and helps them get better."

Prof. Arthur Ellison, past president of the Society for Psychical Research, has not seen the seed experiments, but he accepts that Boltwood is able to speed up the recovery process of sick organisms.

He judges it an example of paranormal phenomena but suggests that "the concept of energy may not be the most useful approach. We are talking about the creative power of the mind and the belief structure. Boltwood's past experience has led him to believe that the seeds will germinate. In the same way, he is able to influence the minds of some patients."

Faced with "observers' antagonism and scepticism, it is much harder to demonstrate healing powers, says Boltwood. Success or failure usually depends on the patient rather than the illness."

Results are occasionally dramatic. John Graham Edmonds, a cake designer, suffered from a frozen shoulder. Doctors told him the only hope was to give up work and move to a warm climate.

Boltwood treated him in February. "Within half an hour, the pain had gone," Edmonds says. "My arm was moving for the first time in three years."

Dr Anthony Clare, medical director of St Patrick's Hospital in Dublin, cautioned against the involvement of healers in severe mental conditions, saying that it was "more likely to be disruptive than healing."

Boltwood has "no doubt that psychic healing is complementary to conventional medicine."

Improving brain tumour survival

TWELVE people given only months to live because of recurring brain tumours have been saved by an improved treatment that involves implanting radio isotopes in the tumours to kill the cancer cells.

Doctors at London's St. Bartholomew's Hospital are pioneering the advance through the development of medical imaging techniques to simplify calculation of the precise spot at which to place one more such implants so that highly concentrated radiation doses can be given without harming surrounding normal brain tissue.

The new method, known as brachytherapy by stereotactic implantation, relies on the latest contrast-enhanced computed tomographic (CT) scanning technology to pinpoint the position of the tumour in three dimensions to an accuracy within 0.5 millimetre. Radio isotopes can then be located with great precision to do the most damage to the tumour.

Similar forms of treatment are being carried out in the US and Fed. Germany but the British method is said to represent an advance on these because the sophisticated advanced planning devised by the St. Bartholomew's team helps to select the safest trajectory for implant cath-

eters, avoiding such areas of the brain as speech centres. It also enables more complex patterns of radioactive material implantation to be followed than usual.

Of the 14 seriously ill patients, including five children, that have been treated in London since the project began there 18 months ago, most are now in remission and many have returned to leading normal lives.

Thirteen of the 14 treated were patients whose tumours had recurred after conventional therapy and who had only months to live. One desperately ill teenager has died but a spokesman for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF), which is supporting the work, said: "She gained four months of good quality life she would not otherwise have had. Another teenager with a very poor outlook, who had relapsed after conventional radiotherapy, is now leading a normal life again — including horseriding — more than a year after treatment."

Although the St. Bartholomew's team has been concentrating on treating patients who have relapsed, the new treatment is likely to be used as first line therapy for many tumours in the future as modern scanning methods detect more brain tumours at an earlier stage.

On the brink of success

British researchers believe they are on the brink of finding the gene responsible for cystic fibrosis, the most common inherited disorder that affects one person in every 2,000 births.

Professor Bob Williamson from St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London has just told a conference in the UK capital: "We are getting near the end of the road. It could be next week, it could be next year."

He likened the position to someone checking entries in a 23-volume encyclopedia. "We know the page, now we are reading every word on it," he explained.

Once the gene has been identified it will be possible to isolate its protein, which could then be altered to remedy the defect. Because cystic fibrosis affects exposed parts of the lungs it might eventually be possible to replace the defective gene.

Prof. Williamson continued: "Finding the murderous gene will be the end of one story and the beginning of a new one to re-tool so that we can target good genes into the lungs."

For many cystic fibrosis victims, however, more immediate hopes rest on the continually improving survival rate for heart-lung transplants. Of 200 such operations carried out at London's Harefield Hospital, 35 had been on cystic fibrosis sufferers. Four out of five transplants are now successful and one of the Harefield patients has already survived for three years. Prof. Magdi Yacoub, the UK heart transplant pioneer, says: "There is no reason why heart-lung recipients should not have a near normal lifespan once they get over the first six months."

Beating the heartbeat danger

Results are expected later this year of the first clinical trial on heart patients with a new device that monitors the electrical signals and blood pressure inside the heart and can activate an artificial heart pacemaker if there is danger.

The heartbeat monitor, which is being developed at Exeter University's School of Engineering in south-west England, has already been successfully tested in the laboratory using a simulated heartbeat.

Unlike conventional monitors which give a continuous recording of heartbeat for up to 24 hours, the new device recognises normal heartbeats but only records periods when a slowing or increase in the heartbeat is detected.

In addition, if it detects pauses in the heart-

beat or if the heartbeat slows to a dangerous level, it applies pacing pulses to the heart to restore it to an acceptable rate.

Because the monitor only records when irregularities in the heartbeat occur, it can be worn for up to three weeks and with the aid of a computer it is quick and easy for a cardiologist to check for the irregularities. Results can be seen on a VDU as waveforms or can be produced on a printer.

The new monitor will also help doctors diagnose the exact cause of fainting attacks or symptoms such as light-headedness, palpitations or dizziness which occur infrequently and are thought to arise from irregularities in the heartbeat.

New material can cut tooth fillings

A dentist at Manchester University Dental School in north-west England has discovered a new adhesive lining material that goes between the tooth and filling and acts as a seal to keep the filling in place.

David Cohen says it should lead to fewer fillings because its adhesion means it will take much longer for leakage from the filling to cause the need to replace it. It is also hoped it will eliminate sensitivity after a filling.

Cohen, who has been collaborating on the research with Dr. Edward Combe, head of the biomaterials science units at the dental school, says it is hoped to patent the new material within 15 months and to have it on the market in two years.

Low cholesterol and cancer link

The recent Scottish study which showed a statistical link between low levels of blood cholesterol and death from cancer was no surprise to doctors. That there is an association between the two has been assumed for some years, although there has been argument as to how much these figures are influenced by changes in the serum cholesterol after the cancer has developed, and how far the level can be relied upon as a predictor of trouble ahead.

More remarkable is the work of doctors at

the Claude Bernard Centre in Paris. In a letter to *The Lancet* they report on the relationship between serum cholesterol levels and the age at death of elderly women. They have been following the case histories of 92 women, of whom 53 have now died. The optimum cholesterol level of survival appears to be around 7 mmol/l, considerably higher than the level recommended in Britain. The death rate is highest in those women with the lowest cholesterol around 4 mmol/l and increase again once the cholesterol has risen above 7.

Home pregnancy tests may improve prenatal care

Give baby the best possible start

By Tamara Henry

WASHINGTON, (UPI): Home pregnancy tests may be a way to alert potential mothers to curb bad health habits and seek early prenatal care — moves that could help reduce the nation's relatively high infant mortality rate, a leading obstetrician says.

"The earlier a woman learns she is pregnant, the sooner she can make positive changes in her lifestyle," said Sally Dorfman, an assistant professor at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in Bronx, New York.

But the outspoken Dorfman stressed, "I think women still need to acknowledge the role of professionals and not try to do it all themselves. Home testing is fine, but that should trigger a call to the doctor."

Home pregnancy test first hit the shelves of grocery stores and pharmacies in the late 1970s, and have been growing in popularity. A survey commissioned by Prevention magazine said 68 per cent of women under 30 say they are potential users of home pregnancy tests and 56 per cent are interested in testing for ovulation.

The Food and Drug Administration, which regulates the devices, has given "clearance" to 29 different kits, after testing them for their safety, effectiveness, chemical structure and instructions used.

"There is a place for them in the marketplace. They are still on the shelves," said an FDA official, noting the clearance process can take only

Home pregnancy tests first hit the market in the late 1970's and have been growing in popularity. But while the medical profession approves of this do-it-yourself method, they still advise a visit to the doctor because no test is error free.

90 days if all documents are in order.

Officials of advanced care products, which has three kits on the market, including one added in October, said consumer studies show "during the past five years there has been consecutive growth in the use of these tests." The firm's projected sales in 1989 is estimated at more than \$90 million.

Home pregnancy testing is a far cry from earlier methods of determining pregnancy. The first recorded pregnancy test in 1350 B.C. told of watching to see if a woman vomited a concoction of crushed watermelon and the milk of a woman who had borne a son.

In the 13th and 14th centuries, doctors declared a woman pregnant in her urine "floated milk" or "covered an iron needle with black spots."

Rats, frogs and rabbits were injected with urine of a woman believed to be pregnant in 1927. The animals were killed 48 hours later and pregnancy was affirmed if there was an excessive amount of blood in the blood vessels.

Dorfman conceded the home pregnancy testing method in

which a woman adds her urine to chemicals provided in the kit may give women a false sense of security.

"Home pregnancy testing is positive to a point," said Dorfman. "I'm all in favour of women knowing more about their own health and bodies and getting involved. But I think that can be carried to an extreme that is hazardous."

"You don't say, 'Oh, I'm pregnant. Now I'm going to drink my herb tea and have a happy home delivery nine months later with my neighbours singing and dancing around,'" she said.

Dorfman warned no test is error free: "There is always the potential for a false-positive or negative." Another danger, she said, is ectopic pregnancy, where the fertilised egg develops outside the uterus, as in a fallopian tube. This occurs in one out of every 100 pregnancies and is the leading cause of maternal deaths, she said.

Health statistics show some 662,000 women do not begin prenatal care until the second trimester of pregnancy and 207,000 do not start to get care until the third trimester or get no care at all. The National Natality

Survey said 34 per cent of pregnant women — some 1.3 million each year — are getting what is generally considered insufficient prenatal care.

Inadequate prenatal care is considered one of the causes of the nation's high infant mortality rate, about 40,000 each year with another 11,000 babies weighing less than 5-1/2 pounds and having long-term disabilities.

Along with a positive pregnancy test and doctor's appointment, Dorfman said women should immediately avoid harmful substances such as tobacco or other drugs and incorporate a well-balanced diet and moderate exercise into their lives to increase their chances of having a healthy baby.

"The time that the woman is pregnant may already be too late if she hasn't been educated to the fact that she needs (annual physicals), if she's already smoking a pack a day, already drinking daily, if she's into drugs," said Dorfman, noting that fetal growth occurs before most women know they are pregnant.

Dorfman said in the first few weeks of pregnancy, the embryo's size increases 2.5 million times. Most of the fetus' systems form between the third and eighth weeks of growth; millions of cells are differentiating and moving into position to make limbs and organs.

By the sixth week, the brain and spinal cord are forming, she said, noting smoking, drinking and taking certain medications could interfere with development and produce an unhealthy baby.

Cataract operation no longer a problem

WHAT appeared unthinkable a few years ago, is mere routine today in West Germany: removal of the cataract by the modern operation technique ultrasound presents no problem.

Just as grey hair or wrinkles that come with ageing or almost everybody develops, with progressing age an opacity of the lens, the cataract. This veil may also be caused by diabetes as well as by eye injuries and inflammation.

As distinct from former times, when

removal of the cataract was complicated and required hospitalisation for several weeks, operation of the opaque lens by ultrasound today is quite painless.

The operation does not even require general anaesthesia. An injection in the lower eyelid anaesthetizes just the sick eye. The physician then executes a primary cut of only 2.85 millimetres to introduce the ultrasound cannula. This instrument performs a double job: it liquefies the cataract and sucks it off.

Full visual capacity is restored by a new plastic lens implanted during the operation. The entire operation usually does not take longer than 30 minutes. As the tiny cut takes very little time to heal, patients can be released from the clinic after just 1-2 days.

In addition to the stationary treatment, it is a normal procedure today to operate the cataract on out-patients.

There are practically no restrictions on the chances of operation, nor is there an age limit any more.

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

BREAST RECONSTRUCTION HOLDS PROMISE FOR CANCER VICTIMS

QUESTION: Despite all my precautions and frequent checkups, I was diagnosed with breast cancer about a year ago and had to have a breast removed. At that time, I only thought of ridding myself of the disease, but now I'm thinking about plastic surgery. What are my odds of successful breast reconstruction?

ANSWER: Breast reconstruction holds real promise for anyone who has gone through the trial of breast cancer surgery. The odds of recreating the previous appearance of the breast depend on several factors, including the type of operation, the extent of the surgery, the method of reconstruction that may be useful in your case, and to a great extent, your own expectations and feelings about what might be considered cosmetically acceptable.

The discussions you must have with your own surgeon should be based upon a full understanding of the procedure and what achievements may reasonably be expected. If your hopes are too high, your odds of being satisfied after the surgery may not be as great.

The most common and frequently performed technique involves using a silicone implant to replace lost tissue. The procedure

requires that there be a sufficient amount of skin and other tissue available to cover the implant and provide a natural appearance. When there is too little tissue to permit this, a hollow prosthesis may be inserted. Fluid is injected into this bladder-like device over time, increasing its size and making space for a permanent implant to be used later.

Another more costly and difficult procedure uses muscle and tissue from other parts of the body, such as buttocks, abdomen or back, to construct a living breast that may look quite natural. This operation is called the free flap approach and requires a bit of time to accomplish. All methods are useful in responding to the desires of patients such as yourself to put things back "a bit like they were before."

QUESTION: When my leg became tender and red after a minor injury, I didn't pay much attention. However, things got progressively worse, and when I finally visited my doctor, more than a week had passed. I was both perplexed and horrified when I was informed that I had a bone infection. How can this be since I thought bones were made of just calcium?

ANSWER: Many people believe that the bones that make up our skeleton are identical to the ones you see hanging in biology labs in school. The truth is that our bones are very much alive, requiring ceaseless circulation of blood that assures nutrition and constantly are being resorbed and reformed in a process known as modeling. Thus, as is the case with any living tissue, bones may be attacked by bacterial infection.

Although there are many conditions that could leave one vulnerable to bony infections (osteomyelitis), such as dental abscesses, pulmonary infections, suppression of immune system, diabetes, fractures and even human bites, the most common in adults occurs following an injury or trauma near a local infection. The symptoms include pain and tenderness, fever swelling and redness and eventually ulceration and draining pus.

The damage to the bone may be seen on X-ray, but a careful clinical examination is still the best method for an early diagnosis. Though once considered a killer, the era of antibiotics has provided physicians with many weapons to attack and conquer osteomyelitis. 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

A TOP official of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG) admitted to a Filipino newspaper that a sequestered company had tried to bribe him.

The official said that the attempted pay-off was made through a former law classmate of his who tried to mediate between the commission and the sequestered firm.

"Ang pagkakaibang, 'Eto may dala ako rito. Sabi ng mga kaibigan natin, kasama raw ito ng management fee for the company's operation last year," the top official said.

"Ipinasali ko," the top official said, referring to the bribe. Meanwhile, the PCGG will effect a revamp of the entire management team in Elanga Bay Logging Co., sequestered firm said to be owned by the Subido family.

PCGG Commissioner David Castro said the objective of the commission is for the logging company to generate income to fund government projects such as the agrarian reform programme.

"That company had not committed anything to the government in all these years," Castro explained.

He said the decision of the PCGG to reorganise the five-man board of Llanga Bay was to allow the entry of interested parties who have the capital to finance company operations.

He said Llanga had largely been borrowing against future production and cannot avail itself of higher prices for its wood products.

The Sandiganbayan earlier stopped the commission from implementing a revamp.

Peter Subido, one of the owners, asked the court to stop the entry of Romarillo Vitug and Victoria Martinez, president and representative of a firm largely controlled by the Shahani family.

TWO BROTHERS were stabbed dead while pacifying another brother in a quarrel with their brother-in-law in Valenzuela, Bulacan. Juanito Orso, 42, and his brother Wilfredo, 32, of Puturin, Valenzuela were pronounced dead on arrival at the Lozada Medical Hospital.

The suspect, their brother-in-law Rosendo Legaspi, 38, escaped, police said.

Valenzuela police chief Capt. Carlos Tiquia said the Orso's elder brother Celestino, 46, had an argument with Legaspi during a drinking session.

Celestino exchanged punches with Legaspi prompting Wilfredo and Juanito to pacify them.

However, Legaspi drew a knife and stabbed Wilfredo in the chest. Juanito then chased the fleeing Legaspi who turned around and stabbed him also the chest.

In Valenzuela eight-year-old Teresa Digocena was wounded Monday when a grenade lobbed by two suspected drug addicts exploded in their living room.

Digocena was hit by shrapnel in different parts of the body. She was treated at the Jose Reyes Memorial Hospital in Manila.

The suspects, Roman Alvarez, and a certain Arman Cabudil, both of Palanan St. fled.

Police said Alvarez and Cabudil must have kept the grenade for several months.

They were arrested by the father of the girl.

A FISHERMAN was stabbed to death by two men during a drunken argument in Navotas, and a house painter was shot by a policeman trying to stab the lawman who was arresting him in Malabon.

Fisherman Felix Loreto, 52, of Market III, Fish Port, Navotas, died from several stab wounds.

Suspects Junior Ortega, 24, and a certain Virgilio escaped after the stabbing.

Police said the three men had just finished drinking when they had an argument that led to Ortega and Virgilio stabbing Loreto.

In Malabon, house painter Armando Pablo, 23, of Sulucan St. Hulong Duhat, was shot by Armando Ramos, 41, of the Malabon jail.

Ramos said he was waiting for a ride home on M. Naval St when he noticed Pablo teasing an unidentified woman at about 3 am. When he approached them, the policeman discovered that Pablo was drunk.

The woman, Ramos said, complained to him that Pablo was making advances at her.

When the policeman ordered Pablo to go home, the house painter pulled out a knife and tried to stab Ramos.

Ramos said he was forced to shoot Pablo to defend himself.

Pablo is in serious condition at the Tondo General Hospital with a gunshot wound in the chest.

Ramos surrendered to Malabon chief of detectives Capt. Dante Buenaventura.

A JEEPNEY driver and his lone passenger earlier abducted by three armed men in Batangas City were rescued by a bread vendor in Lipa City.

Driver Gualberto de Torres, 28, of Barangay Kalansayan, San Jose Batangas, and his unidentified passenger were hogtied by their abductors and then dumped in Barangay Balite, Lipa City.

A bread vendor who happened to pass by united them, said Batangas City police desk officer Pfc. Danilo Magtibay.

Torres said that he was driving an Isuzu passenger jeepney with plate No. DDD-577 at about 5 am when the three men boarded it near the Batangas City public market.

When he reached Barangay Ilang-Ilang in Batangas City, the men pulled out guns and announced a holdup. One of the men threatened to kill him and his passenger if they tried to put up a fight, Torres said.

One of the men drove the jeepney. The two others hogtied him and his unidentified passenger. Torres also told police.

EIGHTY-nine farmers were arrested and charges of landgrabbing were filed against them before the Lubao Municipal Trial Court in Pampanga province.

The farmers were accused by Vitug Arastia Development Enterprises, Inc. (BADEI) of cultivating 380 hectares of land owned by the company without permission from its management. They were locked up in Lubao town jail for their failure to post \$5,000 bail each for their temporary liberty.

Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) officer for administration Agustin Carlos Jr said that the DAR legal department has already initiated the expropriation of the 380 hectares in barangays Lourdes, Baruya, San Isidro, San Rafael and Santigao, all in Lubao, Pampanga.

Carlos said that most of the agricultural lands owned by VADEI were not registered with the DAR.

PANGASINAN: A syndicate allegedly engaged in the tampering of cheques and other commercial documents was believed busted with the arrest of four of its members in Eastern Pangasinan Tuesday, the PC reported last week.

Capt. Franklin Campaniano, commanding officer of the 151st PC Company, said the suspects were arrested when the last cheque they endorsed to a businessman from Tayug was positively identified by a commercial bank as "tampered."

Arrested by a joint PC INP team were Rodolfo Samilong, 20, Rodolfo Abuan, 22, and Santiago Casanova, all of Barangay Alac, San Quintin, and Leo Sartorio of Barangay Pangasinan, Tayug.

The four were allegedly found to have tampered with a cheque issued by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) in the name of one Rostita Bustamante, making it appear that it was for the amount of P7,000 when in truth, the cheque was only for P700.

Campaniano said several business establishments in Eastern Pangasinan had been swindled of several millions of pesos recently with the use of tampered cheques allegedly passed by members of the syndicate.

PC investigators said all the cheques endorsed by the four suspects were "good cheques" except for the figures which were altered to make them many times higher.

Campaniano said the four suspects are now detained at the PC stockade pending the filing of formal charges against them.

A 10-YEAR-OLD girl accused a teenager of allegedly sodomizing her in their comfort room in Malabon.

The girl pointed to a neighbour, Dondon Villanos, 17, as the culprit. "Umihit po ako noon ang pasukin ako sa CR at saka ginahasa ako sa purit," the girl told police.

The victim who was accompanied by her father to the police station said she did not report the incident immediately to her father because Villanos threatened to kill her.

"Nagmamakasawa ako sa kanya subalit hindi niya ako linubayan hanggang sa makaranas siya," the girl said.

Villanos left home after the incident and is now the object of police manhunt.

Nurses migration affects country's health programme

Concern over exodus

SENATOR Victor S. Ziga filed recently a resolution intended to look into the extent of the migration of Filipino nurses abroad for purposes of employment, and into the availability of competent nursing care and manpower in the country, with the end in view of providing adequate safeguards to ensure the continuing availability of nursing care to meet the needs of hospitals, clinics, medical institutions, offices, agencies and the entire populace.

In filing the resolution, Senator Ziga said that aside from their proven competence, natural aptitude and admirable nursing skills, Filipino nurses are widely known for their unusual dedication to work beyond the call of duty.

Ziga said that this rich manpower resources has, through the years, been dissipated by the continuing lure of irresistible economic opportunities offered by



Victor S. Ziga

foreign hospitals, medical institutions and agencies and the natural desire for more economically rewarding ventures and a better standard of living.

It has been observed that proliferation of foreign firms and agencies which openly compete for the recruitment of Filipino nurses by offering attractive employment packages has rob-

bed the country of highly trained and competent nurses who in turn had made local hospitals virtually training grounds for the expertise or experience necessary to enable them to meet the minimum requirements for employment abroad.

Senator Ziga expressed the Senate's concern that this exodus of our nursing manpower has not only deprived local hospitals and medical institutions of competent nursing service but may endanger the prompt and proper delivery of primary health care which is the current thrust of the government's health programme.

He further said that our people and hospital institutions deserve to benefit substantially from the skills of our own nurses: a privilege which has increasingly become the exclusive prerogative of more progressive countries abroad.



Oldest balut vendor

At 87, Faustina Medina of Bagac, Bataan could be the country's oldest balut vendor. But she sells the eggs not for the money but for the exercise. She said she wants to stay healthy for her 70 grandchildren.

FLASSIK's hospital visit in Ramadan

Angels of mercy

THEIR fund-raising and socialization suspended in accordance with the observance of the holy month of Ramadan, FLASSIK officers and friends embarked on their hospital visits with the usual zest and dedication that ensures a resounding success for each FLASSIK endeavour while at the same time serving the needs of the indigent Filipino worker in Kuwait.

FLASSIK visits do not only provide material needs to the confined Filipino patients but also emotional support as in the case of one patient who had severely injured his right hand and was unable to write to his family in the Philippines after the vehicular accident.

FLASSIK wrote a letter he dictated and sent it home to his loved ones. FLASSIK officers and friends also spent time at the Psychological Medicine Hospital entertaining the Filipino patients there and initiating recreational and diversional therapy to facilitate recovery from mental illness.

FLASSIK also supplies reading materials especially to those patients whose illnesses are of a long-term nature as in the case of Florida who is at the Physical Medicine Hospital for rehabilitation due to fractures sustained in a vehicular accident which cost the life of her employer.

FLASSIK wish to thank the doctors and staff of Ward-9 of Sabah Hospital's main block for the excellent care given to a Filipino maid who sustained extensive ear injuries recently.

If you are interested in joining any of FLASSIK's activities, kindly contact any FLASSIK officer or the director for welfare Araceli Cayaba at tele. 3940600, ext. 4118 of the hospital co-ordinating committee chairperson, Esther B. Madamba at 5312700 ext. 4221 or 2445.

FLASSIK also welcomes donations in kind—grocery items and used clothing are very useful. They will be given to those who have met certain adverse circumstances here.

Meanwhile, FLASSIK president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias has gone all out in support of KAPILKU's summer games. To ensure that the sports festival will have an added flavour of attraction and that everyone will have double doses of fun during the games the officers and members of FLASSIK in their usual spirit of unity and co-operation have established their women's division teams.

Sure to be crowd-drawers, are the basketball and volleyball games. Sponsors of FLASSIK's teams are Alghanim Freight, Durrani International Exchange, Hatid-Ligaya Abubhosh International and KPBC.



FLASSIK officers and friends at Adan Hospital, orthopaedic ward, with Eddie Evangelista of Overland Transport.

Search on for super tots

AFTER the lull of activities in observance of the holy month of Ramadan, the final touches in preparation for the search for the Little Mr and Ms Ambassador of goodwill is now in full swing.

FLASSIK's family-oriented project aims to extend and reach out not only to the adult members of the family but to the junior members as well as to discover and realize the latter's budding potentials that will allow them to be fulfilled persons even in early life.

The children who are invited to vie for these titles should possess the following qualifications:

● Be between 3-6, or 7-9 years old

● At least 1 parent should be of Filipino descent

● Should be articulate and talented.

Valuable prizes are at stake for the winners and FLASSIK will spotlight the winners during its activities, announced FLASSIK president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias.

In compliance with the request of some of the contestants' parents, the present date has been moved to Thursday, June 2. Last day of registration is May 25. The registration fee is KD2 per candidate.

For more particulars, please contact the following: chairperson for the event: Araceli Cayaba, tele No. 3940600, ext. 4118; FLASSIK Vice Chair Nepomuceno, tele 5624509; FLASSIK PRO Rose Formante, tele. 4843601 or any FLASSIK officer.

Meanwhile, FLASSIK announced that Marlon Aquino who was confined at the orthopaedic ward in Mubarak Al Kaber Hospital for fractures on both legs sustained during a fall is now in the Philippines with her family. FLASSIK secretary Marilyn Manuel-Inductivo who went on annual leave last May 4, escorted Marlon and endorsed her to her family after a tearful reunion at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. They were met by Marlon's aunt at the airport and Marlon was able to relate her story about the accident.

According to FLASSIK president Covarrubias FLASSIK together with the office of the labour attaché was keeping close tabs on Marlon's physical condition until she was fit enough to be repatriated to Manila.

Money transfer service

American Express Moneygram, a worldwide money transfer service, was recently launched by American Express (Amex) International. It was announced by Spencer F. Lenhart, Amex vice-president and general manager for Philippines and Guam. Through Amex Moneygram, an individual is assured of transmitting and receiving money to and from relatives, friends and business associates abroad in minutes," Lenhart said. He added that a sender can relay a message through the system using personal passwords at no extra cost. The recipient may also answer when he claims the moneygram proceeds. The service is available in the Philippines, United States, Canada and 22 other countries around the world.

Peso appreciates

THE reference rate of the peso to the US dollar appreciated to P21.592 from P21.629 Wednesday as the Central Bank sold \$4 million out of \$9 million transacted at the foreign exchange center. Other sellers were Boston Bank and MetroBank, \$2 million each. Buyers were BA, \$3.5 million; Citibank, \$2 million; SolidBank and Associated, \$1.5 million each; and InterBank.

House turned into a museum

Time capsule for Marcos' mom



A mourner pays his respects to Dona Josefa, who is still unburied a year after her death

By Gerry Lirio

BATAC, Ilocos Norte: The remains of Ferdinand Marcos' mother will be kept in a time capsule until the Aquino administration allows the ousted ruler to come home from his Hawaii exile and preside over her burial.

In Manila, hundreds of Marcos supporters staged prayer rallies and attended masses marking Josefa Edralin-Marcos' first death anniversary as her body, embalmed in a sequined gown, lay in state at her family's ancestral home.

Edralin-Marcos, who died on May 4 last year at the age of 95, lies on public display in a glass-topped gray metal coffin in a two-storey, Spanish-style house that has been turned into a museum.

"We are trying to preserve her. We are building a capsule for her body to withstand decay and last for hundreds of years," said Rep. Roque Ablan Jr (KBL, Ilocos Norte), a staunch Marcos loyalist.

Ablan said an Australian manufacturer had been asked to build the time capsule at a cost of \$10,000. The capsule will be made mainly of bronze and glass. He said the Marcos family had wanted the time capsule ready for Edralin-Marcos' first death anniversary. "But the cost and time of preparation did not allow us to beat their deadlines," he added.

Stricken with heart and lung ailments in a Honolulu hospital and facing racketeering charges in New York, Marcos has appealed to President Aquino to allow him to return and bury his mother. Aquino rejected the plea, saying he might stir up trouble.

Officials in Marcos' hometown of Batac, some 400 kilometres north of Manila, declared Thursday "a day of mourning." But only a few hundred turned up at the Marcos home for a morning mass. Among the prominent Marcos loyalists present were Ablan, Mayor Jesus Nalupta, Ilocos Norte Vice-Gov. Rolando

Abadilla, Pedro Balbanero, a retired general, and host of local officials.

In his homily, Monsignor Domingo Nebres, the family chaplain, said that Marcos in a telephone conversation asked about his mother and told him: "Wait for me."

In Manila, a private radio station broadcast Wednesday and Thursday a taped message from Marcos' wife, Imelda, who said her mother-in-law's soul was still on earth "to carry out God's will to bring home her son."

"We, the Marcoses, are pursuing a divine right and divine will to go home to our motherland, a land destined by God to be our home," she said. "I know the day will come when a miracle will happen... when the heart of Corazon Aquino will soften because she, too, is a mother. She, too, is a child. I know that day is near."

She said her mother-in-law's body remained "very beautiful and appears even to be growing younger."

First mental health course in Kuwait

Seven successful graduates

SEVEN nurses from the Ministry of Health completed a 10-week intensive course in Mental Health Nursing which was offered for the first time by Kuwait University's Faculty of Allied Health Sciences and Nursing, Department of Nursing. The course director was Robert A. Gannon, senior faculty member of the Department of Nursing.

Aside from subjects in the care of the mentally ill patients, specific psychiatric ailments, the nurses also participated in discussion and practical applications of present day trend in the care of the emotionally unwell, such as family therapy, behaviour therapy, crisis intervention, self-awareness and guidance and counselling. One of the major requirements of the course were two nursing care study presentation utilizing the scientific problem-solving approach to patient care known

as the Nursing Process.

Practicum placement were at the Psychological Medicine Hospital, the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Hospital in Sulaibikhat and the Kuwait Handicapped Society in Hawalli. Dr Kathleen Simpson, chairperson of the Department of Nursing announced that the following nurses fulfilled the course requirements: Shanti Anne Paramarandam, asst. director of Nursing for Staff Development, Al Adan Health Region, Grace Fe N. Covarrubias, Clinical Instructor, Psychological Medicine Hospital, Susanna Matthews, staff nurse, Amiri Hospital, Anita Caber-Paras, Lissy Santander, Anwar Beige and Hassan Ayed all staff nurses at the Psychological Medicine Hospital.

The course evaluation was done last May 3, 1989 at the Faculty of Health Sciences and Nursing.



Participants from Kuwait University staff standing outside Handicapped Society where practicum was held.

Workers urge JAL boycott

THE National Union of Workers in Hotels, Restaurants and Allied Services (Nuwhras) yesterday called for a boycott of Japan Airlines (JAL) for the refusal of the management of two of its hotels in the US to allow workers' unions.

Nuwhras Secretary General Daniel Edralin also said pickets will be held in JAL offices this week to denounce the union busting.

Edralin said executives of the JAL-owned Nikko hotels in Chicago and San Francisco have been pressuring their workers not to form unions for a year now.

This despite a promise by JAL-Nikko executives not to prevent the formation of unions in the two hotels, Edralin said.

Citibank to encash GOSI drafts

Citibank has announced it would encash GOSI drafts at its branches in Makati, Greenhills and Cebu. This service will be provided up to July 31. GOSI drafts are drawn in US dollars by Saudi American Bank, Riyadh. These represent "social security" refunds to Filipinos who are presently employed in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia or were previously employed there. Payees of such drafts can immediately get cash pesos at Citibank branches for a minimal service fee. Presentation of passport as identification is necessary.

AIDS: death and myths

CONCERN over AIDS is growing after the widely publicised death of a prostitute, and officials are working to dispel misconceptions about the disease.

Officials say at least 22 people have developed active AIDS cases and another 100 have been identified as carriers of the virus which causes the dreaded Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Of the 100 carriers, 61 are female prostitutes. Of those, 50 work around US-run Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base.

The numbers of AIDS cases and carriers are well below those of the United States and Western Europe. But the national AIDS registrar, Dr Erlinda Guerrero,

believes the official Philippine figures are lower than the actual number of cases.

She estimates that the official figure of 100 virus carriers is perhaps one-tenth of the actual number because of inadequate testing and reporting methods.

Since 30 per cent of the carrier develop symptoms of the disease in five years, Guerrero fears AIDS cases in the country could rise to as many as 300 by then.

AIDS, or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, destroys the body's ability to fight off infection and makes the victim vulnerable to a range of fatal illnesses. It is spread by sexual contact, use of infected needles and contaminated blood products. There is no cure.

Officials say that all but three of the 22 AIDS patients acquired the disease abroad. Two of the three who contracted the disease have died. The first was a male homosexual who died last year.

The second was a 24-year-old bar girl from Angeles, home of Clark Air Base, whose death last month was widely publicised.

Her death coincided with newspaper reports that a young Brazilian woman who alleged that she had had sex with many prominent Filipino males tested positive for the AIDS virus.

Health officials would not confirm whether the Brazilian woman, who has since left the country, was actually infected because of privacy regulations.

FILIPINO DIGEST

Army changes role

Cory seeks to woo communists

BATAAN province, Philippines: One of Lieut Ding Carreon's new duties in the Philippine Army is to give candy to poor children. One year ago, he was giving chase to communist rebels.

Lieutenant Carreon has been promoted to a Special Operations Team (SOT). These seven-person squads are the advance forces in a new campaign by the military to win over the "hearts and minds" of communist-influenced peasants.

"Filipinos love anyone who loves their children," says Carreon. "That's a better way of winning than using guns and torture."

SOTs are the centerpiece of a new strategy to end the communist threat by 1992, when President Corason Aquino's term ends. The strategy calls for down-playing the Army's traditional "search and destroy" approach, which is measured in rebel "body counts."

Instead, political and psychological methods are being used to woo peasants away from supporting guerrillas. About 20 per cent of villages are categorized as either infiltrated, influenced, or threatened by the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its armed wing, the New People's Army (NPA).

Much of the peasants' support for the guerrillas arises from their fear and resentment toward past military deeds. "The people still sometimes call us hapon," says Carreon, who lives the communist-infiltrated town of Abucay on the peninsula of Bataan. Hapon is the Filipino derogatory word for the Japanese soldiers who conquered the Philippines during World War II.

The SOT campaign targets not only the "low-level" insurgency, but also aims to transform the Armed Forces of the Philippines. After ousting Ferdinand Marcos three years ago, and later crushing a bloody coup attempt within its own ranks, the military has slowly tried to correct an institution which was transformed by Marcos into a tool for maintaining his power.

Making up for lost time, the military now plans to match its communist enemy, the CPP, tactic. For help, the high command has tapped the expertise of CPP defectors.

The most difficult change for rough and gun-toting soldiers is learning how to be nice to people and, especially, to avoid violent retaliation against a village where a soldier has been killed.

"Filipinos tend to react by being repressive," says Army Commander Mariano Adaleme, who is known as "the father of SOTs."



Government soldiers, supported by an armoured personnel carrier, guarding the Manila airport.

Maj. Gen. Adaleme says he first thought of switching strategies when he realized that his Army patrols too often failed to find a single guerrilla. They could not even solicit tips from locals.

SOTs are modelled after anti-insurgency programmes once used in Malaysia, Thailand, and Vietnam. They also build on failed attempts to win the loyalty of civilians during the 20-year rule of Marcos, when both Marcos and the military became widely disliked.

Under the popular Aquino, however, the military hopes it can "out-promise" the communists by convincing peasants to support the government, to act as spies, and to wait patiently for land reform, farm credit, new roads, and other development projects.

So far, the Communist Party leadership is taking SOTs very seriously. A 1988 party internal document gave a detailed description of the military's campaign: "The scheme is nothing less than a policy of mass annihilation or genocide of the Filipino people, and their sympathizers, by a policy of conveniently hiding behind the smiling face of Aquino."

But the CPP tries to make the best of it. "In truth, the creation of the SOT is an admission by the enemy that the revolution has close ties with the masses and enjoys fairly broad mass support."

SOTs got off to a slow start in 1988, and will reach their full force of 300 units only later this year. A few regional Army com-

Residence denied

Adoption of child brings nightmare

SACRAMENTO, California, May 13, (UPI): The joyful adoption of a Filipino child has turned into a bureaucratic nightmare for a US Air Force family in Japan.

Tech. Sgt. Charles R. Steele, an 11-year Air Force veteran, is preparing to leave the service and possibly take a civilian job in Sacramento, where he was raised and where his parents live.

Steele and his wife Debra, are winding up his 4-year tour at Kadena Air Force Base in Okinawa. They must leave by July 13, but officers of the US consulate on Okinawa have denied them an American residence permit for Samantha Nicole Steele, 4, the Filipino child they adopted two years ago.

In a telephone interview with United Press International, Steele said he was told by consular officials that all visa applications for Filipino children are now on hold because of an adoption fraud investigation, and that the process could take as long as a year.

"They told me that for some time to come, all Filipinos are guilty until proven innocent," he said.

Another Air Force family at Kadena with an adopted Asian child, who asked that their names be withheld, said Steele's case could be only the first of many. Adoption of Asian and half-American children by American military families and civil servants has been common in the Far East since World War II.

They said families with Filipino adoptees have formed a network called Okinawan Adoption Support and Information Society (OASIS), and that it knows of around 50 such adoptions by Americans in Japan. Steele says Samantha was only two when he received her from her unmarried mother in a Manila suburb.

Samantha speaks only English, and spends her mornings at a pre-school nursery for Air Force children at Kadena. She also takes ballet lessons with other children on the base.

"She thinks she is the all-American girl," says Steele.

The hold on visas for Filipino adoptees apparently stems from widespread publicity given a recent adoption fraud case involving Filipino children in New York City.

The Steeles, who insist their adoption of Samantha in the Japanese courts on Okinawa is fully legal, are not willing to give the child up. Steele said he and his wife worked with a Filipino lawyer in Okinawa who was active in adoption arrangement.

He says he went to Manila to take over Samantha from her unmarried mother and bring her to Okinawa more than two years ago.

"They were very poor," Steele recalls. "I know the girl was the real mother. Samantha cried and cried when we took her. The mother and the family thanked me for taking her."

Steele said that after moving Samantha into their home the first task was to have her treated for malnutrition. The Steeles have two boys, aged 7 and 2, born to their marriage.

He has applied to the Air Force for an extension of his 4-year tour of duty on Okinawa, but doesn't know whether it will be granted. He also is looking at staying in Japan on a tourist visa, or trying to get a temporary job there.

At the moment, he is required to be out of his Air Force quarters at Kadena by July 13.

In Sacramento, Steele's parents, Melvin and Phyllis Steele, have asked their Congressman, Rep. Vic Fazio, for help. The senior Steele is a retired Air Force master sergeant. Ann Karpas, an aide in Fazio's office, said he has asked the State Department to investigate.

"They ought to deal with each case individually rather than with blanket rules," says Phyllis Steele. "Everything my son and his wife did was in good faith."

Efforts to get details of the case from the American consulate at the Okinawa city of Urasoe were unsuccessful. On Wednesday, a consular official said the Filipino lawyer who arranged the adoption for the Steeles is under investigation by the Philippines government.

The official said a news release on the issue would be available next day but when the consulate was contacted again, another consular official said the plan for a news release had been scrapped and there would be no comment. He referred questions to the US embassy in Seoul, South Korea.

"There is no comment," was the response of Donald Whitney, chief of the emigration section at the Seoul embassy.

Huge jets bring US troops

(Continued from Page 2)

dential candidate said Panama's elections had been nullified because of US interference.

Opposition presidential candidate Guillermo Endara, who was beaten by pro-Noriega gangs on Wednesday, celebrated his 53rd birthday at a hospital with presents and cake.

He was listed in good condition and high spirits yesterday. Endara said Bush's action to send in additional troops was legal.

"He (Bush) is not violating any treaties, he is exercising a right of the United States. As President of the United States, he may do that. However, I cannot say that he will do anything for democracy in Panama," said Endara in a telephone interview.

Endara said that the Panamanian defence forces were not truly behind Noriega, and "that there will come a time when these guardsmen will let their patriotic true feelings come out."

Asked if a coup is in the works, Endara said, "If we did (plan a coup), we would be very foolish to say yes," and added, "we would be very foolish not to do it."

In Washington Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn said yesterday the Panamanian military should oust Noriega, but warned that the embattled dictator is not Panama's "only bad guy in uniform."

"My hope is that his own Defence Forces will recognise that he is a liability to the country and to the future of the Defence Forces there. He is putting their future in jeopardy," Nunn said.

Nunn said Noriega is likely concerned about being forced from office by his own military.

He said there probably are "some elements of the military who must be thinking in that respect. I think that Noriega himself is very concerned about that possibility."

Opposition vice presidential candidate Ricardo Arias Calderon called for anti-Noriega protests at churches across the country on Sunday and for a general strike beginning next week.

There was still no official Panamanian reaction to Bush's



A Marine carries a US flag (right) as he and other members of a light armoured infantry company arrive at Howard Air Force Base on Friday, while another soldier waits for the flight to Panama. (Reuter wirephoto)



US Marines walk by a C-130 transport plane after arriving at Howard Air Force Base in Panama. (Reuter wirephoto)

decision to step up pressure against Noriega in the wake of political demonstrations and the cancellation of Sunday's national election.

However, sources said President Manuel Solis Palma met with his cabinet to discuss a "national contingency plan" to

cope with the Panamanian-US conflict.

In the capital, Panamanians reacted nervously to the arrival of US troops, although some Noriega opponents welcomed the increased US pressure on the military strongman.

Noriega's hand-picked candidate Carlos Duque said in a letter to the people in the government-controlled press that the vote was nullified because "the US government wanted to impose its choice at all costs."

Bush had sent a team of observers that said the government rigged the election.

Santiago to defend alien legalisation bill

IMMIGRATION Commissioner Miriam Defensor Santiago vowed to continue to endorse the alien legalisation bill filed by 42 Congressmen despite the rally today of suspended CID employees against the bill.

"The rally is intended to harass me, so I will ignore it," Santiago said. "I will defend the

alien legalisation bill, even if the rallyists start to run naked in Metro Manila."

Manila City hall records showed that one rally permit was issued to three groups, the Buklod ng mga Kawani sa CID, the Federation Union of the Energy Leaders, General and Allied Services and the Gising Bayan

Foundation, Inc.

"The rally was organised by a group of employees whom I suspended and charged with graft and corruption," Santiago said.

"It is their way of retaliating against me for disciplining them. Many labour and cause oriented sectors are in favour of the alien legalisation bill."

OBITUARY



Born: 13.4.1923 Died: 13.5.1989
Mrs. M. B. Menon,
wife of Dr. K. T. B. Menon passed away at Madras on 13th May 1989 at 2 p.m. after a brief illness.

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Madras 600 018

The Management and Staff of Abdulla Sayid Hashim Al-Gharabally Co.

Extend their heartfelt
condolences to
Dr. K. T. B. Menon
on the sad demise of his
beloved wife at Madras on
13th May 1989

May her soul rest in peace.

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NIKKOR zoom lens 80-200, good as new, KD160. Tele. Chito, 2438011 ext. 229.

(AT2-47273-2)

ITALIAN sofa chairs ten seater six months used, dining set, TV, fridge, cooking range, all in good condition. Tele. 4895708.

(AT6-47257-3)

SAFARI, central Makkah Street, in an excellent location, fully furnished apartment with 2 bedrooms, furniture, electrical appliances, large sitting room, furniture and tele. for sale. Rent KD125. Tele. 3713507, 3914248.

(AT2-47280-3)

COMPLETE household, including furniture, household appliances, TVs, videos, fridges, oven, dishwasher, washing machine, dryer, carpet and curtains. Tele. Jankulik Ernst, 5631809.

(AT2-47254-3)

SALMIYA, near the Bahar Video. A new two-bedroom flat with furniture and carpet for sale. Rent KD180. Tele. 5628793.

(AT6-47241-3)

BMW, 1000CC motorcycle, 1983 model, red, brand new, for sale. Tele. 2445120-3, 9 am - 12 noon.

(AT6-47186-3)

KAWASAKI Jet Ski, 1988 model, in excellent condition. KD850. Tele. Faisal, 2405682, mornings, 4842962, evenings.

(AT6-47244-3)

FLAT for sale in Salmiya, 2 bedrooms, CAC, European style for best price. Rent KD180. Tele. 5743169.

(AT2-47272-3)

WINDSURF sailboard Pinto with fanatic sail and boom, KD120. Remote control model plane, with two transmitters and receiver, with accessories, KD80. Inflatable boat for 3 with 4 hp engine, KD120. Tele. 2418864 (9 am - 2 pm) 2405474 (after 5 pm).

(AT6-47248-3)

SALWA, near the American, Gulf English and Universal American School, two bedrooms, dining, hall, CAC, with few household items for sale. Present rent KD190. Tele. Dias, 5614534, 5617312.

(AT2-47289-3)

BAHRA, 21 ft. with a cabin, fully insured, new, made in USA. Tele. 2515716, 4837541, 2521982.

(AT1-47243-3)

SKI/PLEASURE boat, 19 ft. 6 seater, 150 H.P., Mercury engine, in excellent condition. Sold by British Mercury marine engineer. KD850 or best offer. Tele. Joe 3723214.

(AT2-47275-3)

SAFARI, central Makkah Street, in an excellent location, fully furnished apartment with 2 bedrooms, furniture, electrical appliances, large sitting room, furniture and tele. for sale. Rent KD125. Tele. 3713507, 3914248.

(AT2-47280-3)

COMPLETE household, including furniture, household appliances, TVs, videos, fridges, oven, dishwasher, washing machine, dryer, carpet and curtains. Tele. Jankulik Ernst, 5631809.

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SPORTS

Mears ready to take Indy pole position

INDIANAPOLIS, May 13, (UPI): Defending Indy 500 champion Rick Mears yesterday recorded the fastest speed ever clocked at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, driving a practice lap at 226.231 mph (364.075 kph), making himself an overwhelming favourite to win the pole position in today's first day of qualifications.

Mears, seeking a record fifth Indy pole, guided his Penske-Chevrolet over the 2-1/2-mile (4 km) oval in 39.8 seconds on a cool, overcast day. Mears broke the practice mark of 225.733 mph (363.272 kph) he set Monday.

"You have to lean on it to get those kind of numbers," Mears said. "Conditions were great. It surprised me how smooth the run was. The car was pretty stable."

Mears, who shares the career pole mark with A.J. Foyt and Rex Mays, could become the eighth Indy driver to win consecutive pole positions and the first since Tom Sneva completed the trick in 1978. A finish in the top three during time trials today would match Bobby Unser's record of nine front-row starts at Indy.

Mears, 37, of Bakersfield, Calif., owns the speedway one-lap record of 220.453 mph (354.775 kph), but those marks can only be achieved during qualifications. Mears expects to shatter those standards with a lap near 226 mph (364 kph).

"(Pole speed) should be close to what you're seeing now or close to it," Mears said.

A crowd projected at more than 250,000 people should watch records fall easily today with weather forecast as cool and overcast with light winds and a chance of rain. Those conditions would be ideal if dry.

"If I could ask for it, that's what I would want," Mears said.

Jim Crawford, driving a Buick-powered Lola, reached the second-fastest speed ever clocked today with a lap at 225.960 mph (363.637 kph). The Buick's durability has been questioned in the past, but the car has gotten steadily faster all week and the Scottish driver is confident he can take the pole, worth more than \$150,000 in prize money.

"I've as good a chance as anyone," Crawford said. "It's going to come down to weather and who can put the best four laps together. The car is as ready as it could be with another whole week of practice."

Al Unser Sr was next at 225.723 mph (363.256 kph) in his Penske-Chevy, with Bobby Rahal and Mario Andretti above 224 mph (360 kph) and Michael Andretti and Emerson Fittipaldi above 223 mph (359 kph). Mears never has been such a crew of contenders.

"Crawford is quick, but we knew he would be," Mears said.

CSSA urges Scotland to back down

DAKAR, May 13, (Reuters): Africa's top sporting body urged Scotland yesterday to review its decision to allow players to take part in the South African Rugby Board's centenary matches in August.

"The Supreme Council for Sports in Africa (CSSA) urged the Scottish Rugby Union to reconsider without delay its unfriendly decision," a statement telexed to Reuters in Dakar said.

The CSSA also appealed to the international community to unite and fight with the utmost energy against what it described as a "diabolical plan" and a "deliberate provocation."

Wales' decision to allow its players to take part was not mentioned in the CSSA statement.

On Thursday CSSA's secretary-general Lamine Ba described as unethical the decision by Scotland and Wales to let their players take part in the centenary matches.

Last month the International Rugby Board cleared the way for South Africa to approach players through their unions to take part in the matches.

Pistons outlast Bucks

Lakers overcome Supersonics

NEW YORK, May 13, (AP): Bill Laimbeer scored six of his 19 points in the final minute and the Detroit Pistons held Milwaukee to 11 points in the fourth period to beat the Bucks 85-80 in the first game of their second-round playoff series last night.

In the only other playoff game Friday, the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Seattle Supersonics 91-86.

Ricky Pierce, who came off the bench to lead the Bucks with 25 points, missed two free throws with 42 seconds remaining and Detroit leading 81-80, forcing Milwaukee to foul intentionally.

Laimbeer, who scored Detroit's final six points, sank four free throws the rest of the way for the final margin, giving Detroit 1-0 lead in the best-of-7 series that resumes at the palace yesterday.

It was the fourth consecutive playoff game the Pistons held the opposition to 13 points or less in a quarter. The Boston Celtics had 10, 13 and 12 points in a period as they lost three straight games to Detroit.

But the Pistons, showing the effects of an eight-day layoff,



Magic Johnson trailed by as many as 13 points. The Bucks held the lead from the 9:30 mark of the second quarter

until Detroit finally went ahead 71-69 on a 3-pointer by Vinnie Johnson with 9:55 remaining in the game, concluding a 7-0 run to open the fourth period.

With John Salley hitting two baskets and two free throws, the Pistons built their lead to 79-75 with 3:31 remaining. Then Detroit had a 24-second violation and a turnover and the Bucks got a 3-pointer from Jay Humphries and a basket from Sidney Moncrief to take an 80-79 lead with 1:53 remaining.

Laimbeer hit a jumper from the key for an 81-80 Detroit lead with 57 seconds remaining before Pierce missed his free throws at the other end.

The Bucks led 48-39 at half-time, but Joe Dumars and Mark Aguirre each hit four points in a Detroit run that cut Milwaukee's lead to 56-54 with 5:18 remaining in the third quarter.

But Pierce retained the hot hand with eight points the rest of the period and Milwaukee was ahead 69-64 at the start of the fourth quarter.

In Seattle, the Los Angeles Lakers, with Magic Johnson and Michael Cooper making four

free throws each, hit 10 in the final 3:19 to bat the Seattle Supersonics 91-86 for a 3-0 lead in their NBA Western Conference semifinal series.

The two-time defending League champion Lakers beat the Sonics for the 11th straight time in the playoffs and can clinch the best-of-7 series with a victory tomorrow. The Lakers, who swept the Sonics in 1987, were held to three baskets in the fourth quarter, but won with their late free-throw shooting.

James Worthy and Byron Scott led the Lakers with 20 and 17 points, respectively, while Johnson contributed 14 assists and 10 points.

Dale Ellis had 30 points for the Sonics, who rallied for 12 straight points to pull within 81-80 on a driving layup by Sedale Threatt with 3:39 remaining.

Johnson hit a pair of free throws with 3:19 to go. Jerry Reynolds of the Sonics answered with a basket with 1:23 left, but Johnson made two more free throws gave the Lakers an 87-82 lead with 52 seconds left and Xavier McDaniel answered with a basket for the Sonics.



Laura Davies sinks a putt.

Women's golf

Three-way tie for lead

LINCROFT, N.J., May 13, (Reuters): Americans Marci Bozarth and Cindy Rarick and Laura Davies of Britain all shot 70s over the Wet Hamm Hollow Country Club course yesterday to share the lead after the opening round of the Women's Classic.

Rarick and Davies both posted five birdies, offset by a pair of bogeys for the American and a double-bogey for Davies, while Bozarth carded three birdies and an eagle against two bogeys for her three under par score.

Defending champion Nancy Lopez three-putted the final hole for a bogey to fall back to 71, one shot off the lead, where she was joined by fellow-American Sherri Steinhilber.

Four players — Americans Caroline Keegi, Nancy Taylor, Alice Ritzman and Nancy Taylor — were tied at 72.

Bozarth would have been the outright leader if not for a mistake on the sixth hole where she incurred a penalty stroke for picking up her ball in what she thought was a designated pick-up and clean area but was not.

"I am so mad at myself for making that mistake on six, but I didn't let it get me down," said Bozarth, who eagled the par-five 17th with a sand wedge from 83 yards. "I haven't played this well for a long time."

Davies was pleased with her play on the greens. "I putted very well today," the long-hitting Briton said. "That is the part of my game that has been holding me back."

The cut will be made after the second round today to the low 70 scores and ties. The winner tomorrow will receive \$41,250.

Zoeller moves five shots clear of pack

DUBLIN, Ohio, May 13, (Reuters): Fuzzy Zoeller was near his brilliant best in the cool weather at the million-dollar Memorial Tournament as he shot a six-under-par 66 to open up a five-stroke lead after two rounds of play yesterday.

Zoeller, a former US open and Masters champion, has a total of nine-under-par 135. Raymond Floyd, Bob Tway and Mark Calcavecchia were tied for second

place at four-under 140.

Fred Couples and Donnie Hammond were tied at 141, while Greg Norman of Australia rebounded from an opening-round 75 with a 68 that put him at 143 along with Bruce Lietzke, Mark O'Meara and Payne Stewart.

Zoeller had nine birdies and three bogeys on the Muirfield Village course that was still wet from rain this week.

"I had a good feel for the greens," Zoeller said, "and it seemed as if the ball wanted to go in the hole today. I'm convinced that on the Tour, you go as your putter goes."

Floyd had a five-under-par 67 in a bogeyless round that featured five birdies.

Tway also had a round without a bogey as he posted a 69. "It was a crummy day to play," he said.

Orioles beat White Sox

Tigers take Indians to task

NEW YORK, May 13, (AP): Keith Moreland hit a three-run homer and an RBI double as the Detroit Tigers beat the Cleveland Indians 6-3 last night.

Jack Morris, 2-6, won for the second time in a week after losing his first six decisions this year. In three of his losses, the Tigers were shut out.

Moreland's home run, scored in the American League, capped a four-run sixth inning that turned a 3-2 deficit into a 6-3 lead.

Morris pitched a six-hitter for his fourth complete game, striking out five and walking two to improve his career record against Cleveland to 23-7.

Orioles 9, White Sox 6 Mickey Tetlowen drove in three runs for the second straight game, leading the Baltimore Orioles over the Chicago White Sox.

Brady Anderson homered,

Phil Bradley hit two doubles and Cal Ripken drove in two runs for Baltimore, which had 14 hits.

The Orioles scored five times on seven hits in the first inning and Ripken's RBI grounder put them ahead 7-6 in the fourth inning. Twins 6, Blue Jays 5

Kent Hrbek hit a home run and a double, then singled to lead off the ninth inning in the seventh inning that led the Minnesota Twins over the Toronto Blue Jays.

The Twins won their third straight game.

Royals 4, Rangers 3 Pat Tabler and Jim Eisenreich drove in two runs each, leading the Kansas City Royals over the Texas Rangers.

Charlie Leibrandt, 3-4, gave up two runs on nine hits through seven innings. Steve Farr worked the ninth and gave up a run on a two-out double by Rafael Pal-

meiro and a single by Ruben Sierra.

Athletics 5, Brewers 4 Dave Henderson hit a two-run homer with one out in the ninth inning, rallying the Oakland Athletics over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Pinch hitter Billy Beane doubled with one out in the ninth off Dan Plesac, 1-2.

Results

American League		
Detroit	6	Cleveland 3
Baltimore	9	Chicago 6
Minnesota	6	Toronto 5
Kansas City	4	Texas 3
Boston	2	Seattle 0
New York	5	California 0
Oakland	5	Milwaukee 4
National League		
Houston	3	Chicago 1
Pittsburgh	10	Atlanta 2
San Francisco	2	Montreal 1
San Diego	4	New York 3
Philadelphia	3	Los Angeles 0
Cincinnati	5	St Louis 0

Stanley Cup

Montreal and Calgary set for classic battle

NEW YORK, May 13, (Reuters): The teams that ended the National Hockey League season with the best records — the Calgary Flames and the Montreal Canadiens — fittingly will play each other for the NHL championship, the Stanley Cup.

The best-of-seven final, which starts tomorrow at Calgary's Olympic Saddledome, should be a classic duel between the all-out attack of the Flames and the defence-minded, counter-attacking Canadiens.

It will also be a repeat of the 1986 final, which Montreal won 4-1 for their 23rd Stanley Cup.

"It's not too often that the two teams that are supposed to get there, get there," said Montreal centre Bobby Smith, whose power-play goal helped Montreal defeat the Philadelphia Flyers 4-2 on Thursday to reach the final.

Winning the cup is part of tradition for Montreal, one of the proudest sports organisations in North America.

The Flames, on the other hand, are desperate to win it and prove they are as good as their Alberta rivals, the Edmonton Oilers, who have won the cup four times in the past five years.

Three years ago, the Flames reached their first final and were still in the process of building what has become the most awesome scoring team in the NHL.

They had been fortunate to reach the 1986 final after beating the heavily favoured Oilers in the seventh game of the quarterfinals. The winning goal came when a clearing pass by Scottish-born Edmonton defenceman Steve Smith hit goaltender Grant Fuhr's skate and trickled over the line.

This year, however, Calgary compiled the best overall record in the League's regular 80-game season. In amassing 117 points, they lost only 17 games and scored 354 goals compared to 226 against.

Although they needed an overtime goal in the seventh game of their divisional semifinal to beat the Vancouver Canucks, they swept the Los Angeles Kings 4-0 and then dismantled the Chicago Black Hawks 4-1.

Montreal, who finished the season second overall with 115 points, cruised into the semifinals with series wins over the Hartford Whalers and last year's beaten finalists, the Boston Bruins.

But against Philadelphia, they showed signs of weakness, losing twice at home, where sensational goalie Patrick Roy had not lost a game of 30 regular-season matches he started. They rallied, however, and prevailed 4-2 to set up the face-off against Calgary.

Montreal, in the past a fast-skating, attacking team, now play an efficient defensive game under coach Pat Burns, a former policeman, who is in his first year behind the bench.

In front of the brilliant Roy, the Canadiens have veteran defencemen Larry Robinson and Rick Green, rising star Chris Chelios, Craig Ludwig and the Czechoslovak Peter Svoboda.

Add veteran defensive forwards Bob Gainey and Guy Carbonneau, and Montreal have a solid line-up that conceded only 218 goals in the regular season — a miserly average of less than three per game.

Coach Terry Crisp's Calgary team, in contrast, play an explosive attacking game built around marksmen Joey Mullen and Joe Nieuwendyk, the power of Joel Otto and Tim Hunter and the play-making skills of Swede Hakan Loob and Czech Jiri Hrdina.

The Flames became the first NHL team recently to sign a Soviet player, although international winger Sergei Priakin, has seen little ice time since joining Calgary and needs time to adapt to the more robust North American style of play.

Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Mo Johnston

GLASGOW, May 13, (Reuters): Scotland striker Mo Johnston returned to Glasgow Celtic yesterday in a \$2 million deal after a two-year spell with French First Division club Nantes.

French soccer

PARIS, May 13, (Reuters): Paris St Germain went back on top of the French Soccer League, for 24 hours at least, when they beat lowly Laval 3-0 yesterday.

Former champion

CAROLINA, Puerto Rico, May 13, (UPI): Former Boxing Council lightweight champion Esteban de Jesus of Puerto Rico, who died of Acquired Immune Deficiency (AIDS), was buried yesterday in a rural cemetery near where he was born 37 years ago.

Major surprise

HELSINKI, May 13, (Reuters): Polish student Rafael Kubacki sprang a major surprise at the European Judo Championships today by winning the heavyweight title — his first medal in a major international competition.

Liangde wins

ORLANDO, Florida, May 13, (AP): Two-time Olympic silver medalist Tan Liangde of China outscored last week's World Cup winner Mark Lenzi to win the men's 1-metre springboard title at the Alamo international yesterday.

Motorcycle race

MISANO Adriatic, Italy, May 13, (AP): Kevin Schwantz yesterday edged world champion Eddie Lawson and the current championship leader Wayne Rainey during the opening qualifying practice of the 500-cc class for tomorrow's Grand Prix of the Nations.

Chang withdraws

CHARLESTON, S.C., May 13, (Reuters): Second seed Michael Chang withdrew from his tennis tournament due to illness and third-seeded Luis Luján was ousted by number six Jay Berger in the surprise-filled US Jay Court Championships yesterday.

Joint team

SEOUL, South Korea, May 13, (AP): South Korea has asked the Olympic Council of Asia to help convince North Korea there should be a joint Korean team for the 1996 Asian Games in Beijing, reports said today.

Harding wins

NEWCASTLE, Australia, May 13, (AP): Australian boxer Jeff "Hitman" Harding took a step closer to a world title bout yesterday when he scored a unanimous points win over Argentinian Nestor Giovannini in a 10-round non-title fight at the Newcastle basketball stadium.

Heysel disaster

BRUSSELS, May 13, (Reuters): The Belgian Soccer Union and its former general secretary, convicted last month of unlawful killing in the 1985 Heysel stadium disaster, appealed against their sentences yesterday, their lawyer said.

W. German soccer

BONN, May 13, (Reuters): West German First Division soccer results today:

Karlsruhe	2	Hamburg SV	2
Stuttgart K	2	Bayern Munich	0
St. Pauli	1	Hanover	0
Cologne	2	Borussia D	0
Nuremberg	0	Borussia M	0
Bayer U	2	Werder Brn.	1
Waldhof M	3	VFB Stuttgart	4
Eintracht F	3	Kaiserslautern	2

Italy draw

NAPLES, Italy, May 13, (Reuters): Result of an Italian First Division soccer match today:

Napoli	1	Roma	1
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England win

BUCHAREST, May 13, (Reuters): Chris Oti and debutant Jeremy Guscott scored seven tries between them as England's rugby union side trounced Romania 58-3 today.

McEnroe loses to unseeded Argentine

EDE, Netherlands, May 13, (AP): American star John McEnroe was pounded 6-4, 6-2 yesterday by Argentina's unseeded Jose-Luis Clerc in the Audi exhibition tennis tournament, then immediately cancelled his tour and planned to fly home.

"He had the feeling that it didn't work. You might speak of a mental injury caused by stress," a tournament spokesman said, adding that McEnroe was planning to fly back to the United States today.

Third-seeded McEnroe's loss came in the

quarterfinals of the \$160,000 tournament. Meanwhile yesterday, first-seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden advanced to the semifinals by scoring an easy 6-3, 6-2 victory over Argentina's Horacio de la Pena.

Another quarterfinal match, between Americans Derrick Rostagno and Andre Agassi, was suspended after two sets until today because of heavy rains. Rostagno won the first set 7-6, and Agassi won the second 6-2.

The match between Swede Anders Jarryd and Andres Gomez from Ecuador was also

postponed because of the weather.

The tournament ends tomorrow. Later in the evening yesterday, McEnroe pulled out of next week's Italian Open men's tennis championships because of an injury suffered during the exhibition match.

It is the second year in a row that the American player, a favourite of the Italian fans, has withdrawn at the last minute from the Rome clay-court event.

Organisers here said McEnroe apparently injured his back when he stepped on a ball.

Derby upset Arsenal

LONDON, May 13, (Reuters):

Liverpool moved closer today to completing an English League and FA Cup double for the second time in three years when they came from behind to beat Wimbledon 2-1, while First Division leaders Arsenal suffered an unexpected 2-1 home defeat by Derby.

Second half goals by John Aldridge, his 26th of the season, and England winger John Barnes revitalised the defending champions who were in danger of suffering their first defeat since January 1.

The victory was particularly sweet for it was Wimbledon who denied Liverpool the double last season when they beat them 1-0

in the Cup final.

Arsenal lost out to the sharp shooting of Dean Saunders, who scored once in each half, and the brilliance of Derby's England goalkeeper Peter Shilton.

Results

English Division One

Arsenal	1	Derby	2
Aston Villa	1	Coventry	1
Everton	3	West Ham	1
Luton	1	Northwich	0
Manchester U	2	Newcastle	0
Millwall	1	Southampton	1
Notts Forest	4	Charlton	0
QPR	1	Tottenham	0
Sheff Wed	1	Middlesbrough	0
Wimbledon	1	Liverpool	2

English Division Two

Bournemouth	0	Plymouth	0
Bradford	1	Manchester City	1
Crystal P.	0	Birmingham	1
Hull	0	West Bromwich	1
Ipswich	2	Blackburn	0
Oldham	2	Swindon	2

Oxford

Portsmouth	0	Watford	4
Sheff Wed	3	Chelsea	3
Stoke	2	Leeds	2
Sunderland	2	Brighton	2
Walsall	1	Leicester	2
		Barney	3

English Division Three

Aldershot	0	Manfield	0
Brentford	1	Cardiff	1
Bristol C	2	Sheff U	0
Bury	0	Bristol R	0
Chesham	2	Reading	4
Fulham	1	Port Vale	2
Gillingham	2	Notts County	1
Huddersfield	1	Wigan	1
Northampton	1	Doncaster	3
Preston	3	Wolves	3
Southend	1	Chesham	0
Swansea	1	Blackpool	2

English Division Four

Barnley	0	Scarborough	1
Derby	2	Carlisle	0
Exeter	0	Lincoln	1
Grimsby	0	Hartlepool	0
Hull	2	Hereford	2
Leyton Orient	4	Scunthorpe	0
Peterborough	2	Doncaster	0

Rotherham

Torquay	1	Cambridge U	0
Tranmere	1	Colchester	1
Wrexham	2	Rochdale	1
York	2	Stockport	0

Scottish Premier Division

Dundee U	0	Hibernian	1
Dundee	1	Dundee	1
Hearts	1	Hearts	1
Rangers	0	Aberdeen	3
St Mirren	0	Celtic	1

Scottish Division One

Ayr	0	Morton	1
Clyde	2	St Johnstone	0
Clydebank	4	Airdrie	1
Dumfries	1	Meadowbank	2
Forfar	2	Falkirk	2
Queen's	0	Kilmarnock	6
Raith	1	Partick	1

Scottish Division Two

Albion	2	Berwick	1
Arbroath	0	Stirling	4
Dumfries	0	Alloa	2
East Fife	1	Montrose	4
E Skirling	1	Cowdenbeath	2
Stenhousemuir	1	Queen's Park	1
Stranraer	2	Brechin	1



Tyson appears in court

World heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson (right) leaves a court in Los Angeles on Friday with his attorney Howard Weitzman. Tyson had to appear at a closed hearing to explain his version of a battery complaint lodged against him by a parking lot attendant. (Reuters wirephoto)

Newport takes six for 43

Australia collapse to 103 all out

WORCESTER, England, May 13, (Reuters): Worcestershire seamer Phil Newport grabbed six for 43 as Australia collapsed to be all out for 103 before lunch on the first day of the opening three-day match of their tour today.

Only opener Geoff Marsh and wicketkeeper Ian Healy reached double figures on a treacherous pitch which gave lift and movement to the quick bowlers.

Allan Border chose to bat after winning the toss against the county champions, captured by all-rounder Ian Botham who is fighting to regain his Test place after almost a year of through

injury. But Botham had no chance to show off his bowling skills as first Newport and then Neil Radford destroyed the Australian batting.

After they had reached a reasonable 56 for two Newport struck with three wickets in seven balls. The last eight wickets fell in the space of 11 overs for the addition of only 47 runs.

Marsh, who was the sixth man out, made 21 and Healy, coming in at number seven, batted brightly to be undefeated on 25.

Radford ended with three for 32.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings	
G. Marsh c Rhodes b Radford	21
M. Taylor c Rhodes b Pridgeon	6
T. Moody c Rhodes b Newport	9
A. Border c Hick b Newport	8
M. Valetta c Radford b Newport	0
S. Waugh c Rhodes b Newport	0
I. Healy not out	25
T. Holmes lbw b Newport	3
G. Lawson c Illingworth b Radford	6
M. Hughes lbw b Radford	2
T. Alderman c Pridgeon b Newport	15
Extras (lb-8 nb-7)	15
Total	103

Fall of wickets: 1-10 2-34 3-56 4-56 5-56 6-64 7-67 8-82 9-89.

Bowling: Radford 11-2-32-3, Pridgeon 9-1-20-1, Newport 10.5-2-43-6.

Sanchez reaches final

ROME, May 13, (Reuters): Spanish teenager Arantxa Sanchez continued her assault on the top of the tennis tree by comfortably winning through to the final of the Italian Open tournament for the first time today.

Fourth seed Sanchez, ranked 11th in the world, added yet another straight-sets victory to her string of convincing results here, beating Frenchwoman Nathalie Tauziat, the 14th seed, 6-1 6-3 in 75 minutes.

Sanchez, who has said she is ready to move into the top echelon of the world rankings, will face defending champion Gabriela Sabatini who beat Bettina Fulco 6-3 6-1, in tomorrow's final.

Sabatini beat the 17-year-old Spaniard in the semifinals here last year and at the same stage in the Tampa Open last month.

St Tropez-based Tauziat, who knocked out second seed Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria in the third round, has taken her time to size up each successive opponent, losing the first set of every match on her way to the semifinals for the first time.

But time was not a luxury she could afford against Sanchez, who broke her in the opening game and pressed her into making constant mistakes.

The first set was over in little more than half an hour as Tauziat gave away another break with two forehand errors.

Sanchez, who beat American Chris Evert in the third round of last year's French Open, played well at the net and passed Tauziat again and again as the Frenchwoman left the court open.

Tauziat took the lead briefly in the second set when she broke Sanchez to 15 to go 3-2 up. But the Spaniard, running the width of the court to reach one seemingly-impossible shot in a long rally, simply broke straight back.

Maradona plays down row

NAPLES, Italy, May 13, (Reuters): Diego Maradona emphasised his loyalty to Italian club Napoli yesterday as he tried to play down a row that was sparked by his threat to leave the UEFA Cup finalists.

"I don't want to talk about it any more because what I say is always interpreted differently. But one thing must be clear: I am with Napoli and not against Napoli," the Argentine said in a brief comment to reporters.

On Monday, 10 days before the second leg of Napoli's UEFA Cup final against VfB Stuttgart, Maradona told Italian television he might leave the club after losing the support of chairman Corrado Ferlaino.

Similar remarks were widely reported in the Italian press

again yesterday after they appeared in an Argentine newspaper.

"If even the chairman is against me then I can't stay. Next year I will leave, I am a bit tired," Maradona said on Monday.

The row between Argentina's World Cup captain and his club followed his absence with a back injury from last Sunday's League match at Bologna where Napoli scraped a 1-1 draw.

Club doctor Emilio Acampora said Maradona could resume training today, indicating that he would almost certainly miss the League match against Roma that day.

Injury-hit Napoli brought the game forward a day to have time to prepare for next Wednesday's UEFA Cup clash.

Slingsiders edge H2O at the last

SOWETO SLINGERS became the new K.B.R.C. Wednesday Dart League champions this week, despite having previously completed their fixtures. Long-term leaders H2O found the pressure was too much as they lost their second successive match, and failed by one point to stay ahead of the Slingsiders.

Entente Geordiale once again proved to everyone, the all-round improvement and strength in depth that the team now displays. Having virtually killed off Has Beans' hopes for 3rd place last week, the North Eastern side proceeded to demolish H2O's last remaining hopes.

Last week's 5-1 drubbing at the hands of Chucklers was obviously still on their minds, as the first 3 singles games were lost 0-2 and with them went their 1989 title chances. Nick Harvey and Steve Watters were outstanding for the visitors as they took the first M.M. game for an unassailable 4-1 lead.

To round off a very satisfactory night for The Geordies, Othom; also won 2-0 with Eileen Watters peppering the treble 20 but unable to win her high score trophy, and Julie Armstrong had 2 scoring M.M. trebles for the third time this season.

Entente Geordiale's success has meant a first championship for Soweto Slingsiders, just as it looked as though they would be the bridesmaids yet again. After two seasons as runners-up, this year's side of Ian Thomas, Richard Ellis, John Donovan and Geoff Clark finally made it up to the top. At the end of the day their narrow victory was achieved more by Mickey Mousse than singles wins, as in 56 games they only suffered 10 defeats, showing good team performances.

The final game of the Wednesday League saw Bulls Hitters destroy Rondels 6-0, 2-0 and thus ensure 3rd place for both ladies and men's teams. Here the singles performance of Graham Warner, Rod Cole and John Watson have been a telling

factor all season in their race with Has Beans for the 3rd place.

Cottar Hoose completed their K.B.R.C. Monday League programme, as a depleted side lost 4-2 at Exiles, and Exiles have still yet to play Cunning Linguists in a game to decide whether Straight As A Dai or the Linguists will win 3rd spot in the Monday League.

Final standings

Men's League

	P	W	D	L	GF	Ga	Pts
1 Soweto Slingsiders	28	21	6	1	121	47	47
2 H2O	28	22	3	3	119	49	47
3 Bulls Hitters	28	18	5	5	109	59	41
4 Has Beans	28	18	4	6	108	60	40
5 Equalisers	28	16	4	8	97	71	36
6 Shower of Tossers	28	13	7	8	95	73	33
7 Entente Geordiale	28	14	4	10	89	79	32
8 Middle Easterners	28	13	5	10	96	72	31
9 Chucklers	28	11	6	11	87	78	28
10 Message A Trois	28	8	5	15	72	96	21
11 Nibblers	28	5	7	16	63	105	17
12 Slingsiders	28	4	7	17	63	105	15
13 Rondels	28	5	3	20	69	118	13
14 Dinar Sowers	28	3	3	22	47	121	9
15 Fintas Flyers	28	2	3	23	48	119	7

Ladies League

	P	W	D	L	GF	Ga	Pts
1 Fintas	28	26	0	2	52	17	52
2 Middle Easterners	28	21	0	7	46	25	42
3 Bulls Hitters	28	18	0	10	44	27	36
4 Lady Tossers	28	16	0	12	39	28	32
5 Slingsiders	28	15	0	13	35	31	30
6 Othom	28	14	0	14	36	33	28
7 Avengers	28	14	0	14	32	33	28
8 H2O	28	13	0	15	35	36	26
9 Equalisers	28	13	0	15	35	36	26
10 Message A Trois	28	12	0	16	37	32	24
11 Nibblers	28	13	0	15	29	35	26
12 Rondels	28	11	0	17	26	39	22
13 Dinar Sowers	28	9	0	19	22	42	18
14 Chucklers	28	7	0	21	22	44	14
15 Fintas Flyers	28	5	0	23	19	50	10

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